UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ
Edmonton, August 3 - 26, 2005 Vol. LXXVIII № 15, Price: $1.75

Canadians can now enjoy visa-free travel to Ukraine

See Page 3

Yushchenko's son owns Orange Revolution copyrights

Andriy's lavish spending creates press turmoil

Compiled from reports by RFE/RL and The Guardian

State Tax Administration deputy head Mykola Katerynchuk has told Ukrainian media that Andriy Yushchenko, President Viktor Yushchenko's son, owns the copyrights to symbols and logos of the 2004 Orange Revolution in Ukraine, Ukrainian news agencies reported on Aug. 2.

"I passed [these copyrights] to [Andriy Yushchenko] personally, after the [Yushchenko] victory in the third round," Katerynchuk said in an interview with "Kommersant-Ukrayina" on Aug. 2.

"During an election campaign our symbols should be protected from being misused by someone else," he added.

Katerynchuk said the logos were hugely popular abroad as well as in Ukraine. "I can't say that they have made Andriy wealthy, but he is an enterprising young guy. We'll see when he makes his tax declaration."

Katerynchuk was Viktor Yushchenko's representative in the Central Election Commission in the presidential campaign. According to experts quoted by "Kommersant-Ukrayina," the symbols and logos associated with the Orange Revolution could be worth "millions of dollars."

President Yushchenko's press service said that the family of Yushchenko had been given the legal rights to the symbols before the 2002 parliamentary elections to "protect them from inappropriate use". A spokesperson would not say why Andriy was chosen as the beneficiary or if he had made any money from them.

Katerynchuk's statement came in the wake of reports alleging that Andriy Yushchenko, a university student in Kyiv, lives a lavish lifestyle on funds of unknown origin.

President Yushchenko came under fire from reporters on July 26, one day after he sharply rebuked a journalist who had asked him questions about his son's spending habits.

Ukrainian media have given the story constant coverage — even asking the president for an explanation at a July 25 press conference. But President Yushchenko angrily dismissed the questions, accusing one correspondent of subjecting his children to unfair scrutiny.

"Andriy is just a citizen like you. He wants a private life," Yushchenko said. "You try revealing your private life [to other people]. He is not a public politician. My friends, if you want to strike out at someone, strike out at me. Don't attack wives or children. You should be above that."

But the reporter, from the "Ukrainian pravda" newspaper, probed further, asking where Andriy Yushchenko worked that enabled him to afford his BMW M6 sports car — valued at US$120,000 — and other luxury items like a $30,000 platinum Vertu mobile phone.

President Yushchenko responded by calling on the correspondent to "act like a polite journalist and not like a hit man." He went on to say his son had a job that allowed him to lease his BMW — and that the

Cont. on P. 3

Publication Mail Agreement #40007679, paid at Edmonton, Alberta. PAP Number: 08935

We acknowledge the assistance of the Government of Canada through the Publications Assistance Program toward our mailing costs.
Canada

PLEASE SEND TO

PHOTO — DAUPHIN HERALD

Wedding reenactment marks CNUF's 40th

A highlight of this year's Canada's National Ukrainian Festival, held in Dauphin, July 29-31, was the portrayal of a traditional Ukrainian wedding. Numerous festival volunteers, musicians, young Rusalka and Zirka dancers, and more than 40 CNUF choir members came together to reenact excerpts from the special event. This year the festival celebrated its 40th anniversary. For more, see Page 8 of this issue.

Тимошенко увійшла до трійки наймогутніших жінок планети

Сергій Куделя, *Радіо Свобода*

Юлія Тимошенко увійшла до трійки наймогутніших жінок планети. Так оцінив її впливовість американський діловий журнал "Forbes", який 28-го липня оприлюднив список 100 провідних жінок світу. Перше місце у ньому посіла державний секретар США Кондоліза Райс, а друге - віце-прем'єр Китаю Ву Ї. На третьому місці - український прем'єр-міністр, вона випередила президента Філіппін Глорію Арройо, зірку американського телебачення Опру Вінфрі, міліардерку Мелінду Ґейтс, сенаторку Гіларі Клінтон і першу леді США Лору Буш.

Фактором, який визначив жіночий рейтинг "Forbes", були економічні та інші активи під контролем окремих жінок. А також стратегія і цілеспрямованість поведінки жінки-лідера. Щодо Юлії Тимошенко,то журналістів "Forbes" найбільше вразила її наполегливість у боротьбі з олігархами. Як відзначила в інтерв'ю радіо "Свобода" журналістка видання Елізабет МакДональд, хоча дії Тимошенко викликають багато критики в Україні та за її межами, вона не відмовляється від своїх цілей. Це, на думку журналу, дозволило Тимошенко випередити інших жінок, які обіймають посади глави уряду чи президента держави.

"Її оцінка пов'язана не лише з посадою чи титулом. Коли ми складаємо рейтинг, то завжди пам'ятаємо висловлювання британського прем'єр-міністра Марґарет Тетчер:" Мені байдуже, як довго говорять мої міністри, головне, щоб вони робили те, що я скажу". Отже, ми шукаємо жінок із силою переконань та сміливістю, які готові брати на себе відповідальність. Саме тому нас вразила Юлія Тимошенко. Вона рішуче використовує свою посаду для того, щоб притиснути українських олігархів. І вона сміливо здійснює реприватизацію промислових об'єктів, які задешево скупили місцеві міліардери". У журналі "Forbes" Юлію Тимошенко вже віднесли до групи жінок-глав держав. Як каже журналістка Елізабет МакДональд, вплив Тимошенко на життя держави дозволяє ставити її в одній категорії з президентом Філіппін Глорією Арройо, президентом Ірландії Марі МакЕліс, президентом Фінляндії Тар'я Галонен, президентом Латвії Вайрою Віке-Фрайберґа та іншими всенародно обраними державними лідерами. Як зауважила журналістка видання, хоч Кондоліза Райс і була призначена на свою посаду президентом, але посідає перше місце у рейтингу наймогутніших жінок.

Юлія Тимошенко

Оцінки американських журналістів діяльності Юлії Тимошенко на посаді глави уряду значно відрізняються від позиції американських урядовців. Як зазначив у своєму останньому виступі заступник держсекретаря США Деніел Фрід, за час роботи нового українського уряду економічні реформи в Україні фактично зупинилися. А інші західні екс-

Прод. на ст. 2

Чи ви відновили Вашу передплату?

Перевірте наліпку на газеті. Ваша передплата триватиме тільки до того часу який поданий внизу.

Have You Renewed Your Subscription?

Check the address label. Your subscription lasts only until the date given below.

John O. Public
Aug.17th - Aug.30th, 2005
00000 - 00 St.
Anytown, Prov. Postal Code

ЦІНИ/PRICES

В Канаді / In Canada:
1 рік/year (24 примірники/issues) $35.00 (Кан.) (Cnd.)
2 роки/years (48 примірників/issues) $65.00 (Кан.) (Cnd.)
(ціна включає ПТО ["GST"]).
В С.Ш.А. / In the U.S.A.:
Такі самі ціни, але в американських долярах. Same prices, but in U.S. dollars.
Поза Канадою та С.Ш.А./Outside Canada and the U.S.A.:
Подвійні ціни як в **«С.Ш.А.»**. Double the U.S.A. price.

Щоб відновити передплату, виповніть нижче подану форму та й пішліть до: To renew your subscription, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

Ukrainian News
Suite 1, 12227 - 107 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5M 1Y9
Tel.: (780) 488-3693; Fax: (780) 488-3859

Запевніть щоб всі чеки чи «моні ордери» подані були на *Ukrainian News*. Please make all cheques, or money orders payable to *Ukrainian News*.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov. _____ P. Code _____

Починається реєстрація в Канаді на парламентарні вибори в Україні

(УкрВісті)—Консульський відділ Посольства України в Канаді, та Генеральне Консульство України в Торонто починають реєстрацію українських громадян в Канаді на парляментарні вибори в Україні 2006 р.

Звернення що було післане 26–го липня подає слідуюче:

"З метою підготовки списків виборців на виборах народних депутатів України, що відбудуться у березні 2006 року, та з метою оцінки реальної кількості громадян, які мають право на реалізацію виборчого права, звертаємося до усіх громадян України, які постійно чи тимчасово мешкають в Канаді, стати на консульський облік в Консульському відділі Посольства України в Канаді (провінції Квебек, Манітоба, Нью Брансвік, Нова Скоша, Принц Едвард Айленд, Ньюфаундленд, Національний Столичний Округ) чи Генеральному Консульстві України в Торонто (провінції Альберта, Британська Колумбія, Онтаріо, Саскачеван, територія Юкон та Північно-Західних території), а також повідомити про зміну адреси проживання."

Юрій Никитюк, Радник Посольства України в Канаді пояснив "Українським вістям" що в цій хвилині йдеться лише про реєстрацію громадян України як потенційних виборців які братимуть участь у парламентських виборах.

У відповідь на запит що повинні робити громадяни України які живуть ближче до Вінніпеґу або Калґари, якщо хотіли б створити виборчі округи при почесних консульствах у тих двох містах, Никитюк відповів:

"Канада є надзвичайно великою країною, із урахуванням останніх президентських виборів, як ми знаємо були бажання створити зразскові виборчі дільниці при почесних консульствах в інших точках Канади. Ці питання ми будемо розглядати. На сьогодні я неготовий дати відповідь щодо того чи будуть вони відкриті, але безсумнівно це буде враховано і будемо робити все можливо для того..."

Адреси консульських установ: Консульський відділ Посольства України в Канаді: 331 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1S3. тел.: (613)230-8015; Генеральне Консульство України в Торонто: 2120 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6S 1M8; тел.: (416) 763-3114.

Ющенка в Грузії збиралися вбити?

Грузини це спростовують

(Українська правда)—Президент Віктор Ющенко відклав свій візит до Грузії через наявну інформацію про терористичний акт, який готується проти нього. Про це 26–го липня пише грузинська газета "Резонанси", передає "Обком".

За даними газети, теракт проти українського президента планувала злочинна російсько-осетинська група. Вона навіть збиралася збити літак із президентом.

Водночас прес-служба президента Грузії категорично спростовує інформацію про теракт, який нібито готується на Ющенка в ході його візиту в Тбілісі, передають "Новини-Україна".

"Усе, що сьогодні публікує газета "Резонанси" про планований теракт на президента України Віктора Ющенка - плід фантазії газети. Усе, що наводиться в матеріалі висмоктане з пальця і не відповідає дійсності", - сказав начальник інформаційного відділу прес-служби президента Грузії Теймураз Грігалашвіли.

Прес-секретар Ющенка Ірина Геращенко також спростувала інформацію, що "перенесення візиту Ющенка до Грузії пов'язане із загрозою його життю".

"Візит перенесено у зв'язку зі зміною робочого графіку. Останнім часом відбулася низка серйозних зустрічей президента з членами команди, правоохоронними органами", - сказала вона.

За її словами, "наступні кілька тижнів президент працюватиме в Криму, де відбуватимуться його робочі зустрічі з українськими і закордонними політиками і урядовцями".

Також, сказала прес-секретар Ющенка, він планує кілька поїздок південними регіонами.

Як відомо, візит Ющенка до Грузії було заплановано на 26 липня, а 25 липня його було відкладено на більш пізній термін.

Як повідомили журналістам у Державній канцелярії Грузії, кінець липня для українського президента виявився дуже завантаженим, і він вирішив відкласти поїздку на початок серпня, щоб затриматися в країні довше і краще з нею ознайомиться.

Ющенко збирався відпочити в Грузії шість днів. До його приїзду грузинська влада інтенсивно готувалися, розробила програму його перебування, у тому числі, на курорті Боржомі, у стародавній столиці Грузії — Мцхета та в інших визначних місцях країни.

ST. ANGELA'S ACADEMY

BOX 220
PRELATE SASKATCHEWAN
CANADA SON 2B0
PH.: (306) 673-2200
FAX: (306) 673-2635
WEB SEARCH:
ST. ANGELA'S ACADEMY
A Catholic Boarding High School on the beautiful Saskatchewan prairies where the Ursuline Sisters and Lay Staff "EDUCATE FOR LIFE"

Joseph Husak
PHOTOGRAPHER
472-1966

• Family Portraits (in your house or location)
• Weddings • Community Events • Conventions Graduations & Groups

Invest in the Future of Ukrainian Scholarship by Supporting the

Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

Підтримуйте українознавчі студії - Станьте меценатом КІУС-у

CIUS, University of Alberta,
450 Athabasca Hall,
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2E8

Tel: 780.492.2972 Fax: 780.492.4967
Email: cius@ualberta.ca; www:cius.ca

Лукашенко поговорив з Путіним і вирішив обійтися без України

(Українська правда/УНІАН)—Білорусь вивчає можливість переорієнтації потоку своїх вантажів з портів України і країн Балтії в порти Калінінграда Росії.

Про це заявив президент Білорусі Олександр Лукашенко 26–го липня на нараді з питань внутрішньої і зовнішньої політики, повідомляє прес-служба Лукашенка.

У повідомленні уточнюється, що питання активнішого використання Білоруссю російських портів обговорювалося під час зустрічі Лукашенка з президентом Росії Володимиром Путіним 20-21 липня у Москві.

В Міністерстві транспорту Білорусі відмовилися коментувати цю заяву.

Як відомо, раніше Білорусь пропонувала Україні в навігаційний період 2005 року розглянути питання про зниження канальних зборів у 10 разів і шлюзних платежів в 7,5 рази при перевезенні вантажів судами з осіданням менш ніж 2 метрів при проходженні Бузько-Дніпровсько-Лиманського і Херсонського водних каналів.

Таке звернення було продиктоване зниженням рентабельності білоруських водних вантажоперевезень при одночасному збільшенні їх обсягів.

Зараз для білоруських вантажоперевізників застосовуються ставки портових зборів і платежі за шлюзування на рівні судів закордонного плавання. Канальні збори становлять близько 0,74 доларів на тонну вантажів, шлюзні платежі - більше 4 тисяч гривень за одну баржу.

У навігаційний період 2004 року обсяги білоруських вантажоперевезень водним транспортом збільшилися на 7,7%, порівняно з рівнем 2003 року - до 144,2 тисяч тонн. Білорусь експортувала в 2004 році через Миколаївський порт України 1 мільйон тонн калієвих добрив.

Тимошенко

Прод. 1з ст. 1

перти, зокрема економіст Андерс Аслунд, послідовно критикують Тимошенко за популістські рішення, сталінську риторику та навіть зраду ідеалів Помаранчевої революції. Однак, як зазначають журналісти "Forbes", позиції жінок у сучасному світі надзвичайно мінливі, і вони не виключають радикальних змін у рейтингу наступного року. Наприклад, рік тому місце Тимошенко у рейтингу посідала індійський політичний діяч Сонья Ґанді, яка цього року навіть не увійшла до сотні найвпливовіших жінок світу.

SO-USE CREDIT UNION

СОЮЗ

TORONTO
2265 BLOOR STREET. WEST
TORONTO, ONTARIO M6S 1P1
(416) 763-5575 FAX: 761-9604
1-800-322-9274

SO-USE VOICE
(416) 760-9940
1-800-323-2794
ATM / Interac
INTERNET: www.so-use.com

MISSISSAUGA
512 BRISTOL RD. W. UNIT #1
MISSISSAUGA, ONT. L5R 3Z1
(905) 568-9890 FAX: 568-9893

FULL SERVICE

Chequing Accounts
Term Deposits
Member Card (Interac)
Master Card
Children Accounts
New Canadian Accounts
Business Accounts
Mortgages
Car Loans
Line of Credit
Travellers Cheques
RRSP/RRIF
Mutual Funds
Car Leasing

ПОВНА ОБСЛУГА

Чекові Рахунки
Термінові Депозити
Членські Картки
Мастер Кард
Дитячі Рахунки
Рахунки для Новоприбулих
Бізнесові Рахунки
Морґиджі
Персональні Позички
Позички на Авта
Подорожеві Чеки
RRSP, Mutual Funds

Come into So-Use Credit Union for all your financial needs
Приходьте до Кредитової Спілки «СОЮЗ» щоб полагодити всі фінансові потреби

Yushchenko's son owns Orange Revolution copyrights

Cont. from P. 1

phone had been a gift from a friend.

"He has a job at a consulting company, and he also does some other things there — honest things, which I have encouraged him to do for a long time," Yushchenko said. "It's not a lot of money, but it is enough to lease a car and hire an extra security guard [not provided by the state]."

In an open letter to the president, more than 700 journalists said the vocabulary and the tone that he used while answering the question are not "worthy of a leader of a democratic European country."

The letter was posted on the website of the Internet newspaper "Ukrayinska pravda."

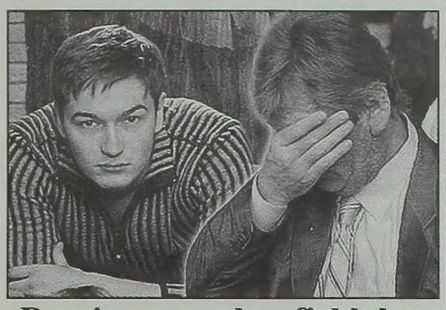
In their letter, journalists say the incident is the latest sign of a worrying trend among Ukraine's authorities, who they say "disregard" freedom of the press.

Stuart Hensel of the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit said the appeal was justified, as Yushchenko is developing a pattern of rude behavior with the press. "Unfortunately, it is symptomatic of the way in which he has dealt with the press in the past," Hensel said. "He has received criticism for some of his previous press conferences, and specifically this one dealing with his justice minister, where he was very dismissive of allegations made by the press about members of his entourage. And he invited some comparisons to the previous regime [of former President Leonid Kuchma]. I think there is some disappointment, certainly, from the members of the liberal press in Ukraine."

Valeriy Ivanov, the head of the nongovernmental Ukrainian Press Academy, also signed the letter. He told RFE/RL the letter was about more than Yushchenko's coarse words at the news conference. "The president just simply refused to provide information about the behavior of one of his family members, and this behavior concerns huge sums of money," Ivanov said. "In fact, it was about hidden forms of corruption. In addition to that, he behaved rudely toward the journalist."

However, on July 29,Serhiy Leshchenko, the "Ukrayinska pravda" journalist, wrote that President Yushchenko telephoned him and that they had reconciled.

"[Yushchenko] assured me that his answer to my question on Monday [July 25] was 'emotional' and that he has 'learned a lesson from that,'" Leshchenko wrote, adding that he harbors no grievance against the president.



Russian press has field day

The Russian press has had a field day over the revelations that Andriy Yushchenko owns the copyrights to Orange Revolution logos and symbols. "Revolution Feeds Its Children" chortled a "Kommersant" headline. MosNews, meanwhile, posted the above photo manipulation on its web site.

Assassination plot reported against PM

(Ukrainian Journal)—Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko may be the target of an assassination plot, at least two western security agencies warned their Ukrainian counterparts, a spokeswoman at SBU, Ukraine's security service, said July 27.

The SBU launched an investigation into the possible threats and has stepped up security measures to avert any potential strike, Maryna Ostapenko, the spokeswoman, told reporters.

The Ukrainian security service publicly confirmed the warnings and the ongoing investigation after the information had been leaked to a television channel earlier in the day.

Volodymyr Boyko, an independent investigative journalist, told NTN television that he had learned about the warnings from a source among western diplomats. NTN identified the source as "close to the Swedish Embassy."

Boyko cited the source as saying the gathered intelligence apparently indicates the plot may be an attempt to stop the government's efforts to return Nikopol Ferroalloy Plant, a major metal company, into state ownership.

Tymoshenko has pledged to return Nikopol, the world's largest ferroalloy company, into the state ownership because of what she described as its illegal privatization two years ago.

Viktor Pinchuk, the son-in-law of then-President Leonid Kuchma, purchased Nikopol at a fraction of its market value after all other bidders had been rejected by the Kuchma government.

Pinchuk's company, Prydniprovye, paid a total of US$76 million for the 50%-plus-one-share in NFP two years ago. A rival bidder, Privatbank, offered $200 million for the same stake, but its bid was rejected.

On July 25, the Tymoshenko government finally prevailed over Pinchuk in a ruling by the Kyiv Economic Court of Appeals, ending a fierce six-month legal battle and leading to an outcry from Pinchuk and his associates.

However, On July 27 this ruling was unexpectedly suspended by the Supreme Economic Court of Ukraine (SEC), derailing the government's plan to hold a shareholder meeting July 28 to appoint loyal management at Nikopol.

At a press conference on July 28, Tymoshenko accused SEC Judge Mykola Khanduryn of an alleged abuse of power in taking the decision to suspend the ruling.

"This man knew that he had been discrediting the court system of Ukraine," Tymoshenko said. "We will appeal to the Prosecutor General Office, the Justice Ministry... I think there will be less and less people like Khanduryn in the court system," Tymoshenko said.

Meanwhile, Pinchuk, who was at Nikopol on July 28 apparently calling for a 10-day strike to put pressure on the government and to prevent the planned shareholder meeting, lashed out at Tymoshenko.

"She'd better be handling state problems instead of settling personal accounts," Pinchuk told Nikopol workers.

Court releases Kolesnikov pending trial

Boris Kolesnikov, a powerful Donetsk official who had been in custody since April charged with racketeering and other crimes, was released Aug. 2 after a court declined a request from prosecutors to extend the arrest.

The Kyiv Court of Appeals ruled Kolesnikov may be released, but must stay in Donetsk while the prosecutors continue investigation into his alleged involvement into racketeering and ordering an assassination. The prosecutors sought to extend the arrest by five months.

Immediately after the ruling, Kolesnikov left the court for an airport and flew to Donetsk on a special charter plane. He was later hospitalized in a Donetsk hospital, with local doctors citing heart problems and high blood pressure.

The development is a major setback for law enforcement agencies that have claimed to have enough evidence linking Kolesnikov to racketeering and several assassination attempts.

The Internal Affairs Ministry on Aug. 2 had no comment on the ruling.

The Kolesnikov case is one of the top high-profile cases that the law enforcement agencies have used to illustrate alleged corruption under the previous government of former President Leonid Kuchma.

"The allegations were groundless and very soon I will be able to prove it," a smiling Kolesnikov told a television channel Aug. 2 after the court ruling was announced.

The ruling was cheered by some 50 Kolesnikov supporters outside the court.

Kolesnikov, then the head of Donetsk region council, is suspected of extorting shares of Beliy Lebed, the biggest department store in Donetsk, in 2002. The previous owner of the store, Boris Penchuk, suffered three assassination attempts and was treated in a hospital with his feet apparently amputated due to the attacks, Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko has said.

The Kolesnikov investigation is one of several high-profile cases aimed against a powerful Donetsk business group which includes Rinat Akhmetov, Ukraine's wealthiest man and Kolesnikov's biggest ally.

Akhmetov left Ukraine last month after law enforcement summoned him for questioning in connection with the shooting of a gang leader 17 years ago.

Canadian visa requirements repealed

(Consulate General of Ukraine in Toronto)—July 26 the President of Ukraine signed Decree No. 1134/2005 that repeals visa requirements for citizens of Canada visiting Ukraine.

This Presidential Decree is introduced to develop and promote practical implementation of principles of partnership in the relations between Ukraine and Canada, and is based on the aspirations to ease travel regime for citizens of the two countries and to foster bilateral contacts in all spheres of mutual relations.

Decree No. 1134/2005 provides that effective August 1, 2005 citizens of Canada may enter Ukraine or transit through its territory with Canadian passports valid for travel abroad without Ukrainian entry visas if the period of their stay in Ukraine does not exceed 90 days.

The provisions of the Decree do not apply to those citizens of Canada who are proceeding to Ukraine for the purpose of studying, employment, immigration or work with diplomatic and consular missions of Canada in Ukraine, as well as for any other purpose, if their planned period of stay in Ukraine is exceeds 90 days.

Жертводавці на Прес Фонд «Українських Вісті» / Donors to the Ukrainian News Press Fund

DONATIONS - JULY 2005

Received Jun.23 - Aug.02/05

$2500.00
Ukr. Can. Foundation of T. Shevchenko, Winnipeg, MB

$35.00
Peter Laba, Calgary, AB
Eugene Bayda, Melfort, SK
W. Wozniak, Kelowna, BC
Ihor Bardyn, Toronto, ON
Vera Feduschak, Regina, SK
Stephanie Fedchuk, Toronto, ON
G. Potopnyk, Wasaga Beach, ON
Borys Budny, Nepean, ON

$20.00
Steven Hewko, Mississauga, ON
Maurice Antoniuk, Lasalle, PQ

$15.00
Lydia Domazar, Mississauga, ON
John Gurba, Edmonton, AB
P. Krawchuk, Edmonton, AB
W. Popovich, Mississauga, ON
Lida Sawdyk, Mississauga, ON

$10.00
Wasyl Szypka, Toronto, ON
Stan Lesniak, Toronto, ON
O. & W. Plypchuk, Speeks, SK
S. & M. Malish, Oshawa, ON
Joseph Hewko, Kelowna, BC
S.&A. Lupynis, Burnaby, BC

$5.00
O. Mandybur, Winnipeg, MB
Bernard Chomyn, Regina, SK
Jurij Darevych, Mississauga, ON

Ми щиро дякуємо всім жертводавцям

We sincerely thank all donors

Chateau Louis
HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE
Французьке ім'я - Українська душа

Ukrainian Buffet
every Sunday
4:30 - 8:30 pm

Beautiful Jacuzzi rooms
Fully Accessible rooms
Fitness Centre
No charge wireless high speed internet access
Complimentary Full Hot Breakfast Buffet
11727 Kingsway, Edmonton, AB T5G 3A1
1.800.661.9843 chateaulouis.com

100 українських миротворців вирушили у Косово

Галина Терещук, *Радіо Свобода*

2 серпня із львівського військового аеропорту "Скнилів" у Косово у місто Приштіни вирушили 100 українських миротворців Першого окремого спеціального українсько-польського батальйону. Ротація відбуватиметься у 3 етапи упродовж серпня. Загалом до Косова відбудуть 262 українські військовослужбовці.

Це уже шоста ротація, починаючи від 1999 року, українських військовослужбовців у Косово. Перебуватимуть вони там із миротворчою місією до серпня наступного року. Український Національний контингент виконує завдання у складі Польсько-Українського батальйону, що входить до багатонаціональної бригади "Схід". Як зазначив в інтерв'ю радіо "Свобода" прес-секретар Західного оперативного командування капітан Дмитро Гуцуляк, українські миротворці нестимуть службу на блок - постах на кордоні. Тут і виникають міжетнічні сутички між сербами і албанцями.

Зона відповідальності українського Національного контингенту майже 250 квадратних кілометрів. Проживають на цій території більше 13 тисячі чоловік, з яких 65% — серби, 35% — албанці. Через територію проходить лінія етнічного кордону, на якій панують напружені стосунки між місцевим населенням.

Відтак українські військовослужбовці нестимуть службу на спостережних пунктах, контролюватимуть за пересуванням населення, супроводжуватимуть дітей до школи, охоронятимуть багатолюдні місця, проводитимуть конвої з сербським населенням через зону албанців, слідкуватимуть за тим, щоб незаконно не перевозилась зброя, вибухові пристрої і наркотики.

Українські військові мають забезпечити мир і спокій у районі конфлікту. За час перебування українських миротворців у Косово на них не здійснювали напади ані серби, ані албанці. Легкі травми військові можуть отримати під час демонстрацій, коли у них люди жбурляють каміння. Дмитро Гуцуляк:

"За 6 років жоден український миротворець у бойових діях у Косово не загинув."

За словами командира національного контингенту підполковника Віктора Копачинського особовий склад добре захищений. Проходив спільну підготовку з польськими вояками на Яворівському полігоні і на території Польщі.

Бажаючих поїхати у складі батальйону з миротворчою місією не бракує. У середньому військовослужбовці отримують 600-1000 доларів в місяць.

"Україна після помаранчевої революції" – слухання у Конґресі США

Зореслав Байдюк, *Голос Америки*

У комітеті з міжнародних відносин палати представників США пройшли слухання на тему "Україна після помаранчевої революції".

Після відносної перерви, пов'язаної з літніми відпустками, тема України знову, як і в часи помаранчевої революції, викликала великий інтерес. Організатори слухань не розраховували на таку велику кількість людей які заповнили зал слухань. Підкомітет з питань "Європи та зростаючих загроз" зібрав кілька спеціалістів аби розглянути такі питання, як економічні реформи в Україні, можливості її вступу до Світової Організації Торгівлі тощо. Член підкомітету конгресмен Роб Векслер, хоча і піддав критиці повільний хід реформ в Україні, закликав своїх колег підтримати новий український уряд, а Європейський Союз – відкрити двері назустріч Києву.

Помічник секретаря Бюро Європи та Євразії державного департаменту США Деніел Фрід у свою чергу віддав належне успіхам уряду Ющенка у таких галузях, як захист громадянських прав, свобода слова, покращення роботи судів, змінення міжнародного іміджу України. Однак, Фрід зауважив, що кілька важливих економічних реформ гальмують, і це може завадити економічному розвитку України.

На слуханнях багато уваги було приділено парламентським виборам в Україні наступного року. Деніел Фрід порадив уряду Віктора Ющенка, аби отримати проурядову більшість у Верховній Раді, терміново залучити безпосередніх учасників помаранчевої революції до підприємництва, вивести на них західних та внутрішніх інвесторів і тим самим схилити на свій бік населення країни.

Фрід подякував Україні за прийняття закону про захист інтелектуальної власності. Адміністрація США, підкреслив Фрід чекає на запровадження цих законів, і за кілька тижнів прийме рішення, чи зняти з України санкції на суму сімдесят п'ять мільйонів, накладені за потурання інтелектуальному піратству. Чиновник державного департаменту наголосив, що США підтримують також прагнення України приєднатися до СОТ. Хоча, зазначив Фрід Верховна Рада повинна прийняти ще низку законів. Однак, Україна ближче до членства в СОТ ніж була місяць тому, підкреслив Деніел Фрід.

Стосовно інвестицій в Україну, на які робить ставку уряд Ющенка, то як зазначив один з учасників слухань у палаті представників директор Євразійських програм Республіканського інституту Стівен Нікс, інвестори продовжують боятися вкладати гроші через невпевненість у судовій системі України.

Всі хто виступав на слуханнях, намагалися переконати конгресменів у необхідності продовжувати підтримувати Україну і загалом всі учасники слухань позитивно оцінили роботу нової української влади. Щоправда, професор Університету імені Джорджа Вашингтона Тарас Кузьо зазначив, що залишається не вирішеною принципова справа вбивства Ґеоргія Ґонґадзе. Якби не було Кучмаґейту, викликаного зникненням журналіста, нагадав Кузьо, не було б помаранчевої революції.

Українські миротворці передають контроль іракській армії

Руслан Дейниченко, *Голос Америки*

Значну частину іракської провінції Васіт відтепер контролюватимуть підрозділи місцевої піхотної бригади. Українські стабілізаційні сили передали свої повноваження з підтримання миру іракському командуванню, повідомляє прес-служба Міноборони. Церемонія підписання відповідного протоколу відбулася 25–го липня.

Сторони домовилися про розділ провінції Васіт на чотири зони відповідальності, дві з яких відтепер перебуватимуть під контролем іракської армії. Контроль ще в одній зоні – 10-кілометровій ділянці ірано-іракського кордону – покладено на бригаду іракської прикордонної поліції.

Перед цим іракські підрозділи пройшли відповідну сертифікацію. Інспектори визнали, що вони готові до самостійного виконання та проведення антитерористичних операцій за підтримки Багатонаціональних Сил.

У визначених секторах іракські військові здійснюватимуть охорону важливих об'єктів, проводитимуть стабілізаційні та гуманітарні операції, патрулюватимуть населені пункти і автомобільні шляхи.

На українське миротворче з'єднання покладені повноваження з нагляду та контролю за їхньою діяльністю. Українське командування затверджуватиме плани операцій іракських колег. Крім того, місцеві військові будуть звітувати українцям про свою діяльність.

ФОТО — АФП

Українські миротворці в своїм базовім таборі.

Наступним кроком, повідомляє українське оборонне відомство, буде передача бригаді іракської армії базового табору "Зулу", що поблизу міста Ес-Сувейра. А загалом повну передачу повноважень від українських до іракських військових у провінції Васіт заплановано завершити до 30 листопада 2005 року.

До того часу українські миротворці братимуть участь в організації тендерів на спорудження для потреб місцевої армії військових об'єктів. Зокрема, будівництва військового полігона, казарм та закупівлі оргтехніки.

Українські миротворці виявили колишні склади саддамівської армії

Руслан Дейниченко, *Голос Амерки*

Перевіряючи отриману розвідниками оперативну інформацію про місцезнаходження великої кількості боєприпасів, українські миротворці виявили колишні склади саддамівської армії. Міноборони України повідомляє, що над знешкодженням арсеналу працювали українські та казахські сапери.

Роботи на виявленому складі тривали протягом двох днів. Загалом було виявлено та знищено до тисячі протитанкових, протипіхотних та мінометних мін, а також артилерійські снаряди, десятки тисяч набоїв та порох. Українські військові вважають, що зброя найближчим часом могла потрапити до рук місцевих терористів.

Міноборони також повідомляє, що в результаті чергової ротації змінилося командування багатонаціональної дивізії «Центр – Південь», до якої входить і український контингент. Церемонія передачі відбулася у базовому таборі штабу поблизу міста Ад-Діванія. Повноваження з командування дивізією прийняв генерал-майор польської армії Пйотр Червінські.

У Європі тривають вибухи, чи має Україна з огляду на це швидше виводити своїх вояків з Іраку?

Михайло Аландаренко, *Радіо Свобода*

Громадський комітет національної безпеки України закликає українську владу прискорити виведення українських військ з Іраку та завершити цей процес до 1 вересня. У заяві мовиться, що це необхідно зробити з огляду на зростання загрози терактів в Європі та в інтересах безпеки народу України.

Із цим закликом громадська організація звернулася після спроби нападів у Лондоні, 21–го липня посилаючись на ультиматум європейсього відділення угруповання Аль-каїда, яка дала державам Європи місяць на виведення військ з Іраку.

21–го липня були нові спроби нападів у Лондоні, а два тижні раніше в результаті бомбових нападів загинуло 56 осіб. Відповідальність за вибухи знову ж таки взяло угруповання, пов'язане з "Аль-Каїдою". Воно погрожує продовжити напади, допоки Великобританія не виведе війська з Іраку.

Я зв'язався з координатором Громадського комітету національної безпеки України Олексієм Толкачовим та попросив його прокоментувати останні події у Лондоні:

"Чесно кажучи, ми були вражені, тому що по всій тій інформації і по ультиматуму, який був оприлюднений бригадою 16 липня повідомлялося, що це є попередження, і до закінчення цього попередження 15 серпня ніяких більше дій терористами вживатися не буде, ніяких більше повідомлень не буде.

"Коли ми дізналися, що вчора знову відбулися інциденти в Лондоні з вибухами в метро, так само інцидент в автобусі, то ми були дуже вражені, тому що жодних попередніх повідомлень або натяків на те, що терористи будуть до завершення свого ультиматуму, проводити якісь свої дії, то цього не було.

"Наша позиція, скоріш за все збігається з тою позицією, яка була озвучена вчора на прес-конференції Тоні Блером. Хтось намагається залякати Лондон і Великобританію, тому що ультиматум був поставлений, є строк завершення цього ультиматуму, вживати якихось додаткових заходів на європейський політикум, то це просто абсурдно, бо самі ж терористи по суті порушують той ультиматум, який вони поставили європейській спільноті.

"На жаль, змушені констатувати, що продовжуючи вибухи, хтось в Європі намагається роздмухати антимусульманську істерію. По тій інформації, яка на сьогодні надходить з Франції, то починаються достатньо широкі переслідування людей мусульманського віросповідання. Кому це вигідно і навіщо це робиться, нам поки що судити важко".

Пане Олексію, чи є реальною загроза терактів в Україні?

Олексій Толкачов: "Ми як написали в заяві, її не виключаємо, оскільки військовий континент України знаходиться на території Іраку, а в ультиматумі бригади сказано чітко, що до всіх європейських країн, чиї війська ходять про землі Месопотамії".

Чи може так статися, що терористичні угруповання намагатимуться виконувати теракти і після виведення українських військ з Іраку, щоб помститися за участь України в коаліції?

Олексій Толкачов: "Чесно кажучи, я не думаю. Зважаючи на те протистояння, яке сьогодні є між терористами і основним їхнім супротивником США, я не думаю, що тут буде йтися про якусь помсту Україні.

"Тим більше ми намагалися підкреслити, що українські війська виконували важливу стабілізаційну функцію. Ми не чули про якусь серйозну ворожнечу між, наприклад, місцевим населенням чи угрупованням на території самого Іраку і конфліктами з українською армією, серйозними.

"Якщо про конфлікти йдеться, то про конфлікти між терористами і США. А Україна тут, по суті, виступає як союзник. Якщо ми виведемо свої війська з Іраку, я думаю, таких питань виникати не буде.

"Тим більше, як ми вже зазначали, на сьогодні подальше перебування війська на території Іраку вже аж ніяк не відповідає національним інтересам України".

Ukrainian Muslims condemn recent terrorism

(RISU)—A press conference of the Arraid organization, entitled "Muslims against terror" took place on July 28 at the UNIAN news agency. The participants of the conference told journalists the position of Muslims and Islam concerning the problem of terrorism and its consequences, and tried to outline ways of preventing terrorist activity, which has recently grown significantly. Arraid is the Ukrainian Muslim Interregional Association of Civic Organizations.

Dr. Ashur Faruka, leader of Arraid, said that Ukrainian Muslims have always condemned terrorism, whatever its origin, as Islam prohibits threats to life and considers murder one of the worst sins.

In answering a journalist's question on whether the attitude to Muslims in Ukraine has changed after the terror acts in Great Britain and Egypt, Dr. Faruka said that Muslims have been living in Ukraine for hundreds of years. According to him, there were fears that discrimination against Ukrainian Muslims might start after 9/11, but "these fears did not come true," just as after the tragic developments in Great Britain and Egypt. Despite the general hysteria in the press, Ukrainian society treats Muslims with tolerance.

At the same time, Iryna Hrudanova, executive editor of the Arraid newspaper, noted in her speech that the attitude to Muslims usually becomes worse after similar acts. She called the people concerned with spreading information to consider before applying the terrorist label to every follower of Islam, and to abstain from using phrases such as "Islamic terrorism," and so on.

Dr. Faruka said that to prevent dissemination of terrorist ideas in Ukrainian territory, Arraid constantly speaks out after every similar tragic event by making public statements, publishing press-releases, and explains the Muslims' true position on similar destructive ideas in its media. Speeches are held in mosques, calling the faithful to oppose the spreading of terrorist ideas in Ukrainian surroundings. According to him, all of these statements are not simply a reaction to events, but the active position of all the members of his association.

Ukraine denies talks with Israel on Iran cruise missiles

(RFE/RL)—The Ukrainian Defense Ministry on August denied talking with Israel about a possible reversal of the controversial sale of cruise missiles to Iran, Ukrainian news agencies reported.

According to the Israeli newspaper "Ha'aretz," the issue was discussed during the visit of Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko to Israel on July 24-26.

"All reports of alleged discussions by Anatoliy Hrytsenko in Israel of the issue of returning missiles from Iran are of a provocational character and are aimed at worsening relations between Ukraine and the countries of the Middle East," the ministry said in a press release.

In March, Kyiv confirmed that 12 cruise missiles known as Kh-55s were smuggled from Ukraine to Iran in 2001.

The Kh-55s, with a range of 3,000 kilometers, mobility, and ability to carry nuclear warheads, could constitute a potential threat to Israel.

In related news, Israeli and Ukrainian defense officials signed an agreement on July 25 for security and military cooperation, "The Jerusalem Post" reported.

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz and visiting Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko signed the agreement at a meeting in Tel Aviv.

The agreement is to lead to cooperation in fighting terrorism, as well as joint military maneuvers and defense industry cooperation.

"In these days, when global terror is becoming an epidemic and is sending its arms everywhere, as we saw in London and in Egypt, we believe that all the nations of the world have to unite and cooperate against terror," "The Jerusalem Post" quoted Mofaz as saying.

Israeli troops recently returned from Ukraine, where they trained with NATO forces for the first time.

Kyiv probes mob link to Euro gas supply

Ukraine's SBU federal security service suspects an international organized crime group controls the supply of natural gas from Turkmenistan to Europe, reports United Press International.

Of interest is Semyon Mogilevich, a Ukraine-born Russian citizen on the FBI's wanted list, who is considered a top crime boss in the former Soviet Union and has suspected ties to companies involved in the Turkmen gas trade.

The Financial Times said the investigation is complicated by myriad agreements between Rosukrenergo, a Swiss-registered company half-owned by Gazprom, the Russian state oil group, and other companies.

Rosukrenergo was set up in July 2004 as an intermediary between Gazprom and Naftogaz, the Ukrainian state oil and gas company, for the transit of Turkmen gas into Ukraine.

Gazprom spokesman Denis Ignatyev said the investigation "might be" part of a larger effort by Ukrainian authorities to spread "negative news about the former regime," which was thrown out of power in last winter's Orange Revolution.

Lazarenko sentencing postponed

(RFE/RL)—The sentencing of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko in the Federal District Court in San Francisco has once again been postponed, Interfax reported on July 28.

The sentencing, which was due to take place on July 27, was postponed till Dec. 2.

According to Lazarenko's attorney, he might be fined US$4.5 million-$5 million and might not be sentenced to prison. However, the court rejected the defense's request for a new trial and ordered Lazarenko to appear for sentencing on Dec. 10. 2.

He was found guilty on 14 charges related to money laundering and fraud, each carrying a term of imprisonment of 20 years.

Case opened against Dnipropetrovsk governor

(RFE/RL)—Criminal charges have been filed against former Dnipropetrovsk Governor Mykola Shvets, Interfax-Ukraine reported on July 26.

The charges against Shvets include misuse of large amounts of state funds for personal gain during his tenure as governor from 1999-2003, a Prosecutor-General's Office spokesman said.

According to Interfax, Shvets has left Ukraine and is living in an undisclosed location.

This is the latest case of a governor appointed by former President Leonid Kuchma being charged with criminal activity. The former governors of Donetsk, Sumy, and Transcarpathian oblasts have all been indicted on similar charges.

Satanists desecrate icon in Ternopil

(RISU)—A black kitten was nailed to a tree and an icon desecrated by Satanists in the Soniachnyi neighborhood of Ternopil, reported ria.ua on July 18.

The paper icon was nailed to a tree with a huge nail. The eyes of Jesus were cut out, a red star in a circle was painted over the icon, and three "6"s were inscribed under the image.Staff of the Church of St. Michael the Archangel, who found the icon several meters from the church, said that an icon desecrated in that way, must be taken off and buried. A local priest also noted that such actions of the Satanists are in violation of the law, which is why the police were contacted.

CLASSIFIED

MECHANIC REQUIRED. 1 full-time semi-retired mechanic, for small trucking company. Apply in person with resume to: D@D Hotshot Service Ltd., located @ 9233-58 Ave. Hrs & wages negotiable.

ST. MICHAEL'S HEALTH GROUP
Edmonton, Alberta

DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

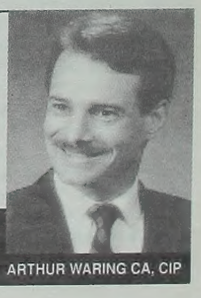
The Position
Reporting directly to the President and CEO, the Director, Development Office is responsible for all major fundraising initiatives for St. Michael's Health Group, as well as the overall operation of Volunteer Services, the Millennium Pavilion Seniors' Lodge, and the Family Physiotherapy Clinic. The individual is responsible for the development of new programs and services, the provision of existing services and the supervision of personnel (approximately15 to 20 staff).

The Candidate
The successful candidate will possess a degree or diploma in Business Management with a major in marketing, accounting or human resource management, together with a minimum of five years recent experience. Progressive management experience in the health care field is preferred. The individual must have excellent written and verbal communication skills. Exceptional public relations, organizational and leadership skills are essential.

The Organization
St. Michael's Health Group operates St. Michael's Long Term Care Centre – a 152-bed continuing care facility with a rehabilitation sub-acute program, and Adult Day Support Program, as well as over 300 beds within four complexes, comprising a Seniors' Lodge and Assisted Living and Supportive Housing facilities.

Competition Closes: 16 August, 2005
Please forward resume, indicating salary expectations to: Director, Human Resources, St. Michael's Health Group, 7404 – 139 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5C 3H7, Fax: (780) 472-4516, email: wmason@smhg.ca

Get Debt Free ®
A.C. WARING & ASSOCIATES INC.
• Collectors Calling? • Wages Garnisheed? • Bills Unpaid? • Credit Refused?
Call Us About:
• Consumer Proposals • Bankruptcy Protection • Debt Payment Plans
FREE Consultation • Appointments Anytime
Chartered Accountant • Trustee In Bankruptcy
"Your Problem, Our Privilege, Your Protection, Our Priority"
424-9944
#820 Sunlife Place, 10123 99 St.


ARTHUR WARING CA, CIP

RETURN UNDELIVERRABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:

UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

Suite #1, 12227 - 107 Ave, Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 1Y9
UN Office; (780) 488-3693; Advertising: (780) 488-3860
Fax: (780) 488-3859; E-mail: ukrnews@compusmart.ab.ca

Publisher:
Edmonton Lasergraphics,
A Division of Canadian Cryptics Ltd.
President: Marco Levytsky

Editor: Marco Levytsky
Hon. Kyiv Bureau Chief: Vitaliy Shevchenko
Advertising, Subscription: Irena Hladki

Ukrainian News is published bi-weekly by *Edmonton Lasergraphics, A Division of Canadian Cryptics Ltd.* Yearly subscription $35.00. All rights reserved. The material in this paper cannot be reproduced in any shape or form without written permission from the publisher. The opinions expressed in the articles do not necessarily reflect those of the proprietor, publisher, or editorial board.
We acknowledge the financial assistance of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP), toward our mailing costs. PAP# 08935

Редактор: Марко Левицький
Поч. Гол. Київського Бюра: Віталій Шевченко
Оголошення, Передплати: Ірена Гладкі

Українські Вісті видає дво–тижнево *Едмонтон Лайзергрефикс, Відділ Кенейдієн Криптикс Лтд.* Річна передплата $35.00. Всі права застережені. Не можна репродукувати ніяких матеріялів без писаного дозволу видавця. Опінії висловлені в статтях не все відповідають опінії власника, видавця чи редакційної ради. Ми підтверджуємо фінансову підтримку уряду Канади в наших коштах висилки газети через Publications Assistance Program (PAP). PAP# 08935.

• • • • • • • •

Ukrainian News is an independently-published newspaper which relies solely upon advertising, subscription and press fund donations for its operation. Please support our newspaper with the above sources. Thank you in advance for your support.
Українські Вісті це незалежна газета, яка сама утримується із передплат, оголошень та пожертв на пресовий фонд. Просимо підтримувати нашу газету повищими джерелами. Дякуємо заздалегідь за Вашу підтримку.

Volpe spouts nonsense, dodges questions

Government has broken both the rules of equality and reasonableness in its selective pursuit of the Ukrainian men, Conservative critic says

By Diane Ablonczy, MP Calgary-Nose Hill,
Official Opposition Critic
for Citizenship & Immigration

Ed. Note: *Conservative Citizenship and Immigration critic Diane Ablonczy was asked by Ukrainian News to comment on a number of statements Immigration and Citizenship Minister Joe Volpe made in response to questions posed to him by Ukrainian News during a meeting with representative of Edmonton's ethnocultural communities, June 19. Her response came after the original story had gone to press, July 20 (See Ukrainian News, July 20 – August 2). We are now printing them in full.*

The answers to the "six questions" (cited by the Minister) have nothing to do with the Committee's report on revocation, except, possibly, to repeat what the Committee already strongly advised in its report which has already been concurred in by the House.

In addition, the Minister received a copy last week (July 18-24) of the Committee's advice to date on the six questions.

The "waiting" excuse is bogus.

It is, of course, nonsense to suggest that the House agreed BOTH with the Committee's (majority, including a majority of all parties represented) report AND the dissenting opinion. Acceptance pertains to the majority position. I wrote several dissenting opinions to Committee reports in years past when the Liberals controlled Committees. No one ever suggested that minority dissent was in any way, shape or form on parity with the (majority) Committee report. Is the Minister saying democracy must equal unanimity? Preposterous!

It should also be noted that the dissenting opinion was filed by the Minister's Parliamentary Secretary who traditionally serves as the Minister's eyes, ears and voice on the Committee. He is therefore in a conflict of interest, not to mention in contempt of the Committee, to place what may well be his own views as articulated through the PS, as a rationale to disrespect the majority consensus. Certainly that would be the opposite of the democratic renewal the Liberals claim is on their agenda!

The fairness of applying parity of standard of proof throughout the citizenship process is an argument that appears reasonable on the surface. However, there is logically quite a sharp difference between GRANTING citizenship and REVOKING citizenship. An analogy might be that citizens are routinely granted rights and privileges by law often without explicit proof of entitlement; it is when such rights and privileges, such as the right to freedom of the person, can be removed, such as being incarcerated for a crime, that proof becomes a real issue. It is completely reasonable for a higher standard of proof to be applied when a citizen is being stripped of citizenship, and in fact such varying application of standards of proof when a penalty may be applied (as opposed to a benefit) is a centuries-old principle of our common law.

With regards to the Mugesera case, the court commented that the standard was "applicable" but gave no opinion as whether the standard was appropriate, nor did it discuss any alternatives.

Commentary

The Ukrainian News alertly asked the key question: why is the Liberal government going hell for leather after elderly citizens explicitly found by our courts NOT to have committed war crimes, but sitting on their hands as actual war criminals walk our streets with impunity. The Minister's answer was, of course, nonsense. A: clearly he is NOT enforcing the law; otherwise these identified war criminals would be going through the same process as the Ukrainian men, at the very least. B: if the Minister's non-action in those cases contrasted with pulling out all the stops to go after the Ukrainians is not ethnically motivated, then how does he explain it? A simple denial won't wash when no other reasonable explanation is offered.

It should also be pointed out that if everyone who, "on a balance of probabilities" obtained Canadian citizenship without full disclosure of all relevant facts, or who misrepresented relevant facts, were to be stripped of citizenship, then those cases would number in the thousands. As the Minister himself said, Canadian citizenship is "granted with the assumption they told the truth." In today's world, and given that Canadian citizenship is highly prized, such an assumption is certain not entirely warranted at least a portion of the time.

The Liberal government itself confirmed the truth of the foregoing assessment in their 1995 statement that only criminality, not mere misrepresentation, would prompt them to act to revoke citizenship. The Minister had no convincing response to the blatant exception they have made in the case of the Ukrainians, and that is why he had to dodge the question.

This government has broken both the rules of equality and reasonableness in its selective pursuit of the Ukrainian men, who were found by our courts NOT to be war criminals and only POSSIBLY to have withheld full disclosure at the time they applied for citizenship. As this latest interview with Volpe so clearly illustrates, they have been completely unable to reasonably explain, let alone justify, this puzzling selectivity, especially puzzling since proven, active war criminals walking our streets today clearly pose a much greater immediate danger.

The Ukrainian News is right to find Volpe's defence to this unreasonable double standard woefully inadequate. Protecting Canadians and their families and protecting our country must be the priority. That means putting our efforts into deporting real, active, proven criminals who pose an immediate threat to our country and its people.

A Conservative government will place in the mandate of our Security Commissioner (announced last week by Leader Stephen Harper in Washington) that he make it a high priority to remove identified war criminals from Canada and ensure that entry for such individuals is monitored more carefully in cooperation with other international security agencies.

Yushchenko must come clean on son's spending habits, cash sources

National leaders have often been embarrassed by their close relatives. In the case of former Prime Minister Jean Chretien — it was his adopted son. In the case of the late Pierre Elliot Trudeau — it was his wife. Both former U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter had to deal with the antics of their brothers. Current President George W. Bush had embarrassing details come our regarding his daughters.

Now Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has a major embarrassment to deal with — his 19-year-old son, Andriy.

At issue are Andriy's spending habits. He drives a BMW M6 sports car — valued at US$120,000 — and has other luxury items like a $30,000 platinum Vertu mobile phone. He is reported to lead a "playboy" existence, dropping wads of $100 bill at popular nightclubs.

When an "Ukrayinska Pravda" journalist asked him about these issues at a July 25 press conference, President Yushchenko reacted angrily, calling on the correspondent to "act like a polite journalist and not like a hit man."

This prompted an open letter by 700 journalists, who said the vocabulary and the tone that he used while answering the question are not "worthy of a leader of a democratic European country."

To his credit, President Yushchenko apologized to the journalist three days later, but the damage had been done. It was exacerbated on Aug. 2 with the revelation that Andriy Yushchenko owned the copyrights to symbols and logos of the 2004 Orange Revolution, and could very well be cashing in on these, reported to be worth "millions of dollars".

Items containing these logos have been immensely popular, not only in Ukraine, but among Diaspora Ukrainians, as well.

That is why Diaspora Ukrainians have as much reason to be concerned about such reports, as do citizens of Ukraine.

While many people buy them because they're popular souvenir items, a major motivation is also to support the revitalization of Ukraine. The revelation that proceeds from the sales of orange scarves, toques and other merchandise may be going to finance the lavish lifestyle of the president's son, instead of the development of Ukraine will leave a very bad taste in many people's mouths.

Furthermore, if proceeds from Orange Revolution merchandise are being spent in this manner, what is happening with all the money people, both in Ukraine and in the Diaspora so generously donated to support the cause?

What is especially significant for Yushchenko in this case is that he came to power as a politician who pledged to clean up corruption and reform a system in which a small elite lined their pockets at the expense of the mass of people who live close to the poverty level.

He came in with much higher expectations than previous leaders of Ukraine, and therefore, is under much more pressure to set a good example.

Yushchenko must now come clean, both on his son's spending habits, and on the source of his funds.

And, in order to regain the confidence of both citizens of Ukraine and well-meaning Diaspora Ukrainians who wish to help the mother country revitalize itself, the copyrights to Orange Revolution materials, must be taken away from Andriy Yushchenko and placed into a charitable trust fund that would be used for the social, economic and democratic development of Ukraine.

Anything short of this would be perceived as the revolution betrayed.

Western media overlook real progress in Ukraine

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation)—Western media reports are increasingly claiming that the Orange Revolution is floundering in Ukraine. *The Independent* on July 25 asserted, "There is a growing consensus in Ukraine that Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko have frittered away much of their political capital." The *International Herald and Tribune* on July 26 focused on the policy divides in President Viktor Yushchenko's coalition and their alleged fear of undertaking tougher reforms.

While these claims hold some truth, overall they misread the Yushchenko administration. Some economic policies in Yushchenko's first 100 days were undoubtedly misplaced, bordering more on socialist than free market economics. Nevertheless, Russian opposition politician Boris Nemtsov's description of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko in the *International Herald and Tribune* as "very left-wing, hugely populist, paternalistic, and also very charismatic" is a gross exaggeration.

Tymoshenko's penchant for state intervention in some areas is tempered by her support for free market economics in others. Tymoshenko is not an ideologically driven socialist, like the Socialist Party (SPU), which is allied to Yushchenko. During the parliamentary debates over adopting WTO legislation, Tymoshenko backed the government while the SPU voted against them.

The government has not been given sufficient credit in three areas.

First, despite talk about re-privatization, Ukraine has not followed Russia in trumping up false charges against oligarchs to put them behind bars. No oligarch in Ukraine is set to go to prison just because he is an oligarch who supports the opposition.

Second, the Yushchenko government is sincerely committed to combating corruption, which must be

Lytvyn to be progressively marginalized

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation)—While President Viktor Yushchenko remains outwardly confident that his Our Ukraine party, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's bloc, and parliamentary speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn's People's Party (NPU) will enter the 2006 parliamentary elections as a coalition, this scenario is now unlikely.

As a condition of joining Yushchenko in the 2006 election, Tymoshenko has demanded that Lytvyn be excluded. Lytvyn's unwillingness to support the adoption of WTO legislation was the straw that broke the camel's back for her. Tymoshenko accused Lytvyn of playing the opposition against the authorities and of advising factions not to vote for the WTO legislation as a single package.

During a recent joint meeting Yushchenko, Tymoshenko, and Lytvyn discussed the need for the "harmonization of parliamentary processes". This is a reference to not repeating the problems found in parliament in June and July, when it discussed the WTO-required legislation. After parliament failed to adopt a large proportion of the bills, the government issued a resolution condemning parliament and Lytvyn in particular.

The government statement accused Lytvyn of being in league with "destructive political forces in parliament". First Deputy Prime Minister Mykola Tomenko accused Lytvyn of working with former president Leonid Kuchma to destabilize parliament and discredit the new authorities.

Tymoshenko's dislike for Lytvyn is magnified by her equal dislike for Petro Poroshenko, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, who acts as Lytvyn's lobbyist within the Yushchenko camp. Their enmity has only grown since the release of an audiotape secretly made in Kuchma's office by former presidential guard Mykola Melnychenko.

Poroshenko denied the authenticity of the tape and, in his usual fashion, claimed it was part of a "konspiratsiya" by former Russian oligarch Boris Berezovsky, who funded the transcription of the Melnychenko tapes. Poroshenko claimed that Berezovsky is working with Kuchma to divide the Yushchenko coalition.

The tape recorded a conversation between Poroshenko and Kuchma on July 7, 2000, and contains two unpleasant moments. First, Poroshenko swears his loyalty to Kuchma: "I am a member of your team! I will obey any of your orders!" Poroshenko declares. "I have made a choice once in my life and there will be no change".

Second, and far worse for Poroshenko, the recording also provides details of Poroshenko and Kuchma's discussion on how to undermine then First Deputy Prime Minister Tymoshenko (in Yushchenko's government) and her parliamentary faction. After criminal charges were filed against her, Tymoshenko was arrested and imprisoned briefly in February 2001.

It is not coincidental that very soon after the tape became public, Security Service (SBU) Chief Oleksandr Turchynov, Tymoshenko's right-hand man in her Fatherland Party, disclosed that the SBU was authenticating the Melnychenko tapes. This is the first occasion that the tapes have been officially examined in Ukraine. Melnychenko told the Jamestown Foundation that he believes Poroshenko is blocking the authentication of his tapes because he fears further details will emerge regarding his, and Lytvyn's, dealings with Kuchma in the 1990s. This, in turn, is holding up progress in the investigation into the murder of journalist Heorhiy Gongadze in fall 2000.

Copies of Melnychenko's tapes were obtained from Hryhoriy Omelchenko, head of the parliamentary commission to investigate the Gongadze case. Omelchenko is himself a member of Tymoshenko's Fatherland Party.

Lytvyn has already predicted, and Melnychenko has privately confirmed to the Jamestown Foundation, that further disclosures of Lytvyn's abuse of office under Kuchma will be made public this fall. These will include excerpts dealing with the alleged involvement of Lytvyn, who was then head of the presidential administration, in the murder of Gongadze.

The final nail in the coffin of the alliance with Lytvyn will be the annulment of constitutional reforms agreed in December 2004 as part of a "compromise package" during the disputed presidential elections. These constitutional reforms would transfer some executive power to parliament, a move Lytvyn supports. Tomenko advised Lytvyn to remember that Ukraine had only one president, Yushchenko, and not himself.

In the fall the Yushchenko-Tymoshenko coalition is likely to file an appeal with the Supreme and Constitutional Courts to annul the constitutional reforms. They will argue that the adoption of the reforms was undertaken unconstitutionally in only one parliamentary session. Changes in the constitution are required to be adopted over two parliamentary sessions, the first time with a minimum of 225 votes and the second with 300 votes.

The annulment of the constitutional reforms would lead to a rift between the Socialist Party (SPU) and Lytvyn's People's Party of Ukraine, which support reforms and Our Ukraine, Tymoshenko, and First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Kinakh's Party Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (PPU), who oppose them. Poroshenko is therefore becoming increasingly isolated within Our Ukraine by continuing to support the constitutional reforms and an alliance with Lytvyn.

Hostility to working with Lytvyn in the 2006 election runs deep among local branches of Our Ukraine, which accuse Lytvyn's NPU of becoming a haven for former Kuchma officials afraid of being charged with criminal offenses. This opposition to working with Lytvyn and members of the former Kuchma camp has also pushed national democratic parties who were members of the Our Ukraine bloc in the 2002 election closer to Tymoshenko.

A break with Lytvyn over constitutional reforms, coupled with Tymoshenko's refusal to countenance entering a 2006 election coalition with him, will prove to be a crisis for both Lytvyn and Poroshenko, his main lobbyist in Our Ukraine.

Western media overlook real progress in Ukraine

curbed in order to attract foreign investment and to facilitate Ukrainian business.

Third, the government is more favorably disposed towards small- and medium-sized businesses, as many of those owners backed the Orange Revolution.

Critics of the Yushchenko government often make assumptions that are not relevant for Ukraine.

First, the average Ukrainian citizen does not take notice of reductions in GDP and vote accordingly. If this were the case, former prime minister Viktor Yanukovych would have won a landslide in the 2004 presidential election when Ukraine's economy was growing at record levels. But Ukrainian voters did not see high economic growth creating a higher standard of living. They instead feared unemployment (73%), rising prices (71%), unpaid wages (65%), and even famine (51%).

Second, the average Ukrainian citizen does not understand or take an interest in many issues that are strategically important for the country, such as WTO membership. Parliamentary Speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn complained that few parliamentary deputies fully understand the ramifications of the legislation required for WTO membership.

Instead, the real threat to the Orange Revolution rests in an area ignored in Western commentaries. The Orange Revolution and Yushchenko's election took place when a sizeable proportion of Ukrainian voters began to believe that Yushchenko was different from other politicians. As in many post-communist states, after a decade of "transition" Ukrainian voters believed that all politicians were corrupt and only wanted public office for personal gain.

The fate of the Orange Revolution and Yushchenko himself hinges upon whether or not Ukrainians continue to believe the new president is different, rather than lumping him with former presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Kuchma. So far, despite a number of crucial mistakes made by the Yushchenko administration, ratings for Yushchenko and Tymoshenko remain high.

The only exception is among eastern Ukrainians, who primarily voted for Yanukovych in 2004. The commonly heard view among them is: "At best…the Orange Revolution replaced one criminal clan, Mr. Yanukovych's, with a new one —Mr. Yushchenko's".

Eastern Ukrainians, particularly in Yanukovych's home base of Donetsk, continue to remain cynical towards all politicians. Following this logic, better then the "lesser of two evils" and the election of "our own boys" into power rather than western Ukrainians.

A more complicated factor to deal with fairly is the question of double standards within the government. As the *Wall Street Journal* wrote, "Worst is the presence in the new government of Ms. Tymoshenko — a former head of United Energy Systems of Ukraine who was prosecuted by the Kuchma government…" This is seen in eastern Ukraine as "evidence of a double standard in fighting corruption."

The questions of whether to review corrupt privatizations dominated much of the government's time and Prime Minister Tymoshenko's rhetoric during the first 100 days. Reviewing all privatizations would be impossible and undesirable. After all, the Yushchenko team includes many businessmen. Ukraine scholar Anders Aslund described the Orange Revolution as a "revolt by millionaires against billionaires."

Populist anti-oligarch feeling remains high, helping to change Tymoshenko's ratings from -50% under Kuchma to +50% under Yushchenko. Most Ukrainian citizens see privatization conducted in the 1990s in negative terms. Some 67% of Ukrainians believe that privatization was undertaken in an unjust manner, with only 9% believing the opposite. Consequently, some 71.3% of Ukrainians would support the re-privatization of large enterprises.

The highest support for re-privatization of large enterprises exists in western and central Ukraine (79.5 and 81.2% respectively), two regions where Yushchenko obtained his greatest support in the 2004 election. This high level could be explained by anti-oligarch feeling and by the fact that most large enterprises are based in eastern Ukraine. In eastern Ukraine support for re-privatization is lower at 53%.

The glow of the Orange Revolution is unlikely to fade before the 2006 parliamentary election. More radical policies this autumn will, if anything, increase its brightness.

What lies behind alleged "plot" to kill Tymoshenko?

By Oleg Varfolomeyev

(Jamestown Foundation)—Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko has lost a battle in her crusade against the "oligarchs." The Supreme Economic Court has ruled in favor of former president Leonid Kuchma's son-in-law, Viktor Pinchuk, in a dispute over the ownership of the Nikopol Ferroalloys Plant (NFZ). Tymoshenko accused the court of bias and suggested that the judge who ruled in favor of Pinchuk should be punished. On the same day, the Security Service (SBU) reported that an assassination attempt against Tymoshenko was in the making, and a rumor was launched that Pinchuk might be behind it. These developments raise serious doubts about the impartiality of the Ukrainian courts, which Tymoshenko openly bullies. And it is a safe bet to say that yet more investors who turned their eyes to Ukraine after the Orange Revolution will now look elsewhere.

Pinchuk's "Prydniprovya" concern bought 50% plus one share in the NFZ from the state in 2003 — too cheap and rife with procedural violations, according to Pinchuk's opponents. As in the case of a more famous Pinchuk holding, the Kryvorizhstal steel mill, NFZ's ownership has been disputed in court by the government almost since the moment Tymoshenko became prime minister in February 2005. A Kyiv district court froze Prydniprovya's stake in NFZ in February, yet in June the case was closed, and Pinchuk retained the stake. The cabinet and the Prosecutor-General's Office appealed, and on July 25 the Kyiv Economic Court of Appeals proclaimed NFZ's sale to Prydniprovya illegal, and asked Pinchuk to return the shares to the state. But the Supreme Economic Court on July 28 overruled the verdict of the appeals court. This happened just hours before the government-scheduled NFZ shareholders meeting was expected to proclaim NFZ to be property of the state and replace its management.

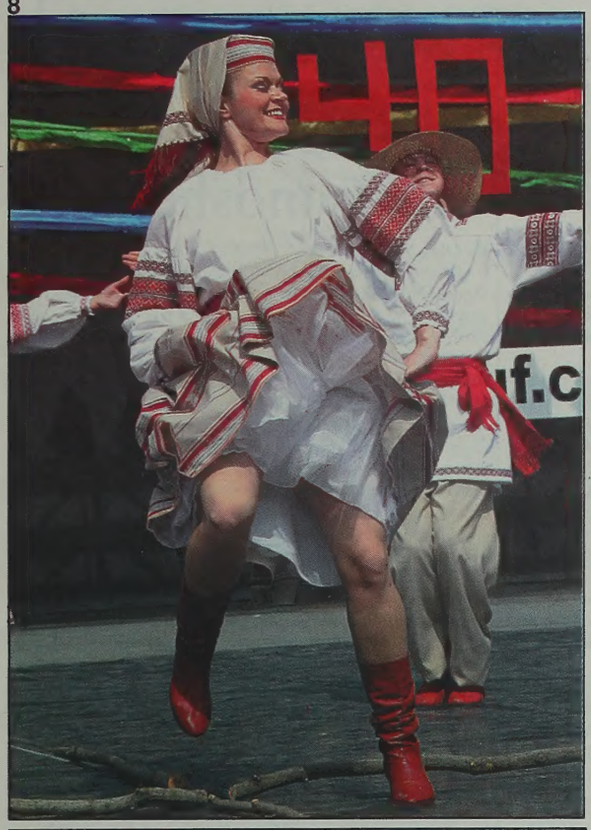
Tymoshenko was outraged. Addressing a press conference in Kyiv on the same day, she said she would ask the Prosecutor-General's Office to look into the activities of the Supreme Economic Court chief judge, Mykola Khandurin, who had delivered the verdict in Pinchuk's favor. According to Tymoshenko, Khandurin "grabbed" the case documents from the lower court "at night" in order to pass his own verdict, which was against "state interests." "I believe we shall soon get rid of judges like Khandurin," she warned.

Tymoshenko's news conference had been preceded by a sensational statement from journalist Volodymyr Boyko, who said he was in possession of information from diplomatic sources that an assassination attempt was being prepared against Tymoshenko. "Structures that would lose from the change of NFZ ownership" might be behind the plot, he said. Later on July 28, the SBU, whose chief is Tymoshenko's longtime ally Oleksandr Turchynov, confirmed Boyko's statement, saying it had received reports about a plot being prepared against Tymoshenko from several Ukrainian embassies abroad.

Pinchuk accused Tymoshenko of settling personal scores and urged President Viktor Yushchenko to intervene. He reportedly admitted that NFZ had been privatized with violations, but, according to Pinchuk, "95% of companies have been privatized in this manner." Pinchuk also alleged that a $10 million bribe had been offered to the judges who had earlier ruled against him in the NFZ case.

The reports about the "plot" against Tymoshenko, apart from being a warning to Pinchuk, look like a desperate appeal to public opinion, which has never been on the side of the oligarchs. Local analysts have been skeptical. "This is good advertising with an eye to the election," UNIAN quoted Volodymyr Malenkovych of the Institute for Humanitarian and Political Research as saying. "If serious people had been preparing a terrorist act, this would have never become known at several Ukrainian embassies at once," Oles Dony of the Center for Political Values said. Only a "madman" would mastermind an attempt against Tymoshenko, as this would "entirely destabilize Ukraine's economy and politics," according to Dmytro Vydrin, a former adviser to Kuchma.

The mass media have for weeks been abuzz with a rumor saying that Tymoshenko was crusading against Pinchuk on behalf of the Privat group, which is the NFZ's minority shareholder. According to the rumor, Tymoshenko would use Privat to get some control over 1+1, a popular television channel, with an eye to next year's parliamentary election, in exchange for full control of NFZ. Tymoshenko has repeatedly denied this. Zerkalo nedeli, in its latest issue, ran an unsigned article saying that Yushchenko's team, wary of Tymoshenko's growing popularity, would like to take over Pinchuk's TV channels (ICTV, STB, Novy) in exchange for letting him retain NZF, in order to use them as tools in the election campaign. Simultaneously, the newspaper said, a certain member of Yushchenko's team met 1+1's majority holder, Ronald Lauder, in order to persuade him to prevent the purchase of a stake in 1+1 by Privat.



CNUF celebrates 40 incredible years

By Jillian Pavlin,
The Dauphin Herald, August 2, 2005

Canada's National Ukrainian Festival (CNUF) has wrapped up its celebration of 40 incredible years.

The evolution from its meagre beginnings as a small, two-day festival in 1966, to the world renowned celebration that it is today, was stressed repeatedly by organizers and performers throughout the weekend (of July 29-31).

CNUF president, Metro Dupley, expressed his satisfaction with the 40th's results.

"I think all the vendors were happy, I think the people enjoyed themselves. Overall, it went very good," he said.

Dupley estimates an increase of 20 per cent to 25 per cent from last year's attendance, putting the weekend's turnout between 6,000 and 7,000. This both meets and exceeds organizer's initial expectations.

CNUF's 2005 opening ceremonies, Friday night, went off in grand style.

Dignitaries, which included Manitoba's Lt.- Gov. John Harvard, Dauphin-Roblin MLA Stan Struthers, Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette MP Inky Mark, and Mayor Alex Paul, gave welcome and praise to the proud Ukrainian culture.

CNUF 2005 Hospodar and Hospodynia, Peter and Elizabeth Bilash, expressed their thanks after being presented with traditional bread and salt by several Smith-Jackson School youth.

And the much-loved Riding and Dancing Cossacks were in fine form, dashing up and down the grassy slope that borders the grandstand.

As the weekend progressed, the grandstand and festival square stages offered much talent in dance, speech, music and song. A festival favourite, The Kubasonics, delighted audiences with their combination of music, comedy and an eclectic array of instruments. They offered up both lively tunes and kobasa hot off the barbecue, cooked by their celebrity chef, Stan Struthers.

Another highlight of this year's festival was the portrayal of a traditional Ukrainian wedding, Saturday afternoon. Numerous festival volunteers, musicians, young Rusalka and Zirka dancers, and more than 40 CNUF choir members came together to reenact excerpts from the special event.

Staged at the Heritage Village, the reenactment included the portrayal of the maiden's evening, the unplaiting of the bride's hair, and the parent's blessing.

The young couple, played by Jolene Showdra and Ray Derhak, were married by Rt. Rev. Fr. Mitred Archpriest O. Rauliuk outside of the Heritage Village church.

The portrayal concluded in front of the Heritage homestead with celebratory song and dance.

Narrator and stage director, Sylvia Marcynuk, said that presenting such a detailed program "feels great."

"We're always excited to present it for the crowds, and have them involved," she said.

Marcynuk explained that the Ukrainian wedding was portrayed annually at the festival during the 1970s, but hasn't been done since 1988 or 1989.

"It was brought back by special request from the festival board to help celebrate the 40th," she said.

"It's nice to bring something old back."

Lyrics to ritual songs were handed out so that audience members could partake in the celebrations.

Though, many knew the words to these songs by heart.

Marcynuk added that the wedding presented on Saturday was only a condensed version.

A full 90-minute video, in seven parts, was produced in the early 1980s, and can be purchased from CNUF.

A high point for Dupley was the Saturday evening fireworks display, which "caught everybody off guard," he said.

"We tried to do something different. It worked out good."

Dupley said that trying new things and coming up with innovative new ideas are the key to not only achieving festival success, but maintaining it yearly.

"Next year we'll have to try to, not necessarily to outdo it, but equal it."

Bringing the crowds back in the same numbers will be organizer's greatest challenge, he explained.

"It's going to be a tough one to do I think."

Dupley encourages all those with suggestions or criticisms to come forward and get involved productively with the festival. "We're always looking for new board members," he said.

He also expressed his thanks to the many CNUF volunteers, for, without their time and effort, we "would be in big trouble, I think," said Dupley.

Counterclockwise from top right: Dauphin's Zirka dancers, Winnipeg's Rusalka, Dauphin's Riding and Dancing Cossacks, bread baked in traditional Ukrainian oven, Hospodar and Hospodynia Peter and Elizabeth Bilash being presented with traditional bread and salt, Winnipeg's Hoosli Folk Ensemble.

ALL PHOTOS — DAUPHIN HERALD

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Edmonton's Yatran Dancers perform

Ukrainian pavilion a crowd favourite

(UkrNews/Edmonton Journal)—The Ukrainian pavilion once again proved to be a crowd favourite during this years Heritage Day's Festival in Edmonton, July 30-Aug. 1.

The pavilion featured performances by Ukrainian dancers, a food kiosk and an information booth put on by the Ukrainian community.

This year, the Ukrainians had the stage all to themselves. Last year they had to share it with the Israeli pavilion.

Both pavilions were once again neighbours.

Festival executive director Jack Little told the Edmonton Journal the festival experienced attendance on par with last year, somewhere in the 335,000 to 370,000 range. The attendance is always an estimate because admission is free.

An army of about 4,500 volunteers ensured site pavilions and facilities ran smoothly and there were few problems, reported The Journal.

Heritage officials had earlier worried this year's event might see smaller crowds, with Klondike Days and the World Masters Games winding up the same weekend as the Heritage Festival.

But it has been just the opposite, with one event seemingly complementing the other. " I think this has been the best weekend we've had all summer," for weather, Little said.

Sunshine versus rain can make a difference of up to 20 per cent in crowd size, Little said. "We're on a roll."

The big beneficiary of Heritage Days is the Edmonton Food Bank. The Heritage Festival is the food bank's single biggest drive of the year. People attending are urged each year to bring food donations.

By 1:30 on Aug. 1, there were about 29,000 kilograms of food on hand from various collection points, said food bank director Marjorie Bencz.

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Group from Vegreville performing at the pavilion stage.

Fake Tymoshenko banknotes circulate

(RFE/RL)—Money counterfeiters have been distributing false 5,000-hryvnia (nearly US$1,000) banknotes among pensioners in Donetsk Oblast, posing as employees of regional social-security departments, the "Ukrayinska pravda" website reported on July 20, citing the Kharkiv branch of the Ukrainian National Bank.

The false banknote bears the image of Ukrainian Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko.

The fraudsters claim to be distributing social allowances granted to pensioners by the government prior to this year's Victory Day.

Since the allowances are significantly lower than 5,000 hryvnias, the fraudsters reportedly make their profits by taking change from the duped pensioners, who are primarily village residents.

Ukraine's banknote with the highest face value, 200 hryvnias, bears the image of Ukrainian poet Lesya Ukrayinka, whose appearance slightly resembles that of Tymoshenko.

U.S. boosts Ukraine aid

(Ukrainian Journal)—The United States has included Ukraine in its coalition solidarity fund, allocating almost $140 million for the country's development in 2005.

As Germany's Deutsche Welle radio reported, according to Interfax-Ukraine, the U.S. Congress has satisfied a request by U.S. President George W. Bush's administration to allocate Ukraine an extra $60 million this year.

Long walk to freedom of former UK MP

(BBC News)—A former MP who escaped the Nazis and Soviet communism to become a confidant of popes and presidents has told his remarkable story in his autobiography.

Stefan Terlezki was rounded up as a slave by the Germans in his native Ukraine, aged 14, during World War II.

He deserted as a Russian army conscript and walked across Europe before joining the British army catering corps.

The ex-Cardiff West Conservative MP, businessman and soccer chairman recalls his life in From War to Westminster.

Terlezki's years in the Commons, from 1983-87, were the culmination of an amazing journey for a man who was bundled onto a train from his village bound for an Austrian labour camp.

"Working on a farm was hell for the simple reason that as a slave you had no right to anything," said Terlezki, aged 77.

"You were just told, 'do this do that, come here, go there'. In fact they never called me by my name, and I wondered whether I would ever be called Stefan, let alone anything else.

"I was called many things but not Stefan, and that was hard to swallow."

But release from slave labour only led to his enforced enlistment by the Russians, when he learned he would be going to Japan to fight.

"I deserted with a friend of mine and subsequently we walked for weeks on end in order not to be caught by the Russians.

"Eventually I joined the British army catering corps and I was able for the first time in years to eat bread by the loaves and not by slices."

He settled in Wales after the war, and worked as a miner, in a bakery and hotels, before buying his own hotels in Aberystwyth and Cardiff.

He also became a Cardiff councillor, where he was an outspoken campaigner on such issues as litter and opposing films such as Last Tango in Paris. He was chairman of Cardiff City Football Club in the mid-1970s, where he tried to control the hooligan problem.

One of his most emotional experiences came in 1984 when his father Oleksa was given permission to leave Siberia and visit his son in Britain.

His visa lasted only 28 days, but Terlezki recalled a "happy but painfully short" reunion before his father's death the following year.

In the meantime Terlezki met Pope John Paul II in both Cardiff in 1982 and at the Vatican, and met world leaders such as former US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

He said: "My public life I think stems from my father and friends and circumstances.

"Just imagine: 14 years of age and taken away into slavery. I had to look after myself. I had no shoulders to cry on, only my own.

"Therefore I wanted to make sure that when I reached so-called freedom — whatever that meant at the time — I wanted to be part of the people and serve them and give to the country as much as I could that gave me so much when I had nothing."

Ukraine bans Russian poultry

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine's Veterinary Department said on Aug. 3 that it has banned poultry imports from Russian regions affected by bird flu.

Russian officials say the disease has killed more than 2,700 fowl in western Siberia and threatens to spread to European Russia.

Russian authorities have identified the virus as a strain that can infect humans.

World health officials are concerned that the virus, first identified in Asia, may evolve into one that can spread from human to human.

This could set off a deadly worldwide pandemic.

So far, however, the humans infected evidently have caught the disease from infected birds.

lucky CALL

Dial 101-8888 Before your next long distance call!

CONTACT: Phone: 416-595-7888, 1-866-548-8888 Email: info@1018888.com Internet: www.1018888.com

GREAT LONG DISTANCE RATES!

UKRAINE 25 ¢/min[1]

WIN GREAT PRIZES! Win Lucky Call 101-8888, every call[2] you place automatically enters you to WIN Great Prizes such as: DVD Player, Digital Camera, 27" TV. visit www.1018888.com for full contest details

WIN FREE CALLS! to anywhere in the world[3] Call[3] anywhere in the world for FREE! Dial 101-8888 before your long distance number and if you hear the slot machine bells you WIN a free call! visit www.1018888.com for full contest details.

45 mins for 99¢[1] — 5¢/min after the first 45 mins — Across CANADA & USA

30 mins for 99¢[1] — 8¢/min after the first 30 mins — For: China, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Italy, Switzerland, U. K. visit www.1018888.com for more great rates

20 mins for 99¢[1] — 8¢/min after the first 20 mins — For: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Chile, Czech Rep., Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, S. Korea, Spain, Sweden. visit www.1018888.com for more great rates

::FEATURE RATES

Dial 101-8888 and do not wait for a dial tone, simply dial the phone number you wish to call.

Bosnia	35¢
Brazil	15¢
Bulgaria	39¢
Croatia	14¢
Egypt	35¢
Hungary	9¢
India	19¢
Jamaica	24¢
Japan	9¢
Lebanon	19¢
Malta	25¢
Mexico	19¢
Norway	9¢
Pakistan	29¢
Philippines	20¢
Serbia & Montenegro	24¢
Romania	27¢
Russia	15¢
Slovak Republic	18¢
Slovenia	18¢
South Africa	29¢
Vietnam	58¢

visit www.1018888.com for more great rates

::DIALING INSTRUCTIONS

Dial 101-8888 and do not wait for a dial tone, simply dial the phone number you wish to call.

CANADA & USA: 101-8888 — 1 + area code + number

OVERSEAS: 101-8888 — 011 + country code + number

::ADVANTAGES

- No charge for calls under 6 secs.
- No connection fees
- No monthly fees
- No contracts to sign
- All rates in effect 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week
- All of your calls appear on your local phone bill

[1] Rates effective January 1st, 2005 and are subject to change without notice. There is no charge at any time for calls made that are less than 6 seconds. All billable calls are subject to a minimum charge of 99 cents. The number of minutes for 99 cents varies from country to country. Calls placed to international cellular phones may be charged at a higher rate. All rates are subject to applicable taxes. Calls are billed in Canadian dollars and charges will appear on your local telephone bill. For more information please visit our website at www.1018888.com or contact Customer Service at 416-595-7888 or 1-866-548-8888. [2] No purchase necessary. The prize shall be either a DVD player, digital camera or 27" TV. Visit www.1018888.com for full contest details. [3] No purchase necessary. Odds of winning the free call are 1 in 10 of billable calls placed to North America and international destinations. The retail value of the free call will depend on the desired call destination. International cellular destinations are excluded from this offer. Visit www.1018888.com for full contest details. [4] Each billable phone call (a call of more than 6 seconds) made using the Lucky Call dial-around 101-8888 will count as one entry.

Чи поверне Росія українських корупціонерів?

Богдана Костюк, *Радіо Свобода*

Міністр внутрішніх справ України Юрій Луценко запропонував своєму російському колезі зустрітися для переговорів щодо повернення в Україну колишніх високопоставлених чиновників, підозрюваних у злочинах. Це повідомлення, що його передало 29–го липня "Радіо Свобода", не стало новиною для тих, хто спостерігає за перипетіями українсько-російських стосунків у правоохоронній сфері. Новим – різким - був тон міністра Юрія Луценка, і новою була його пропозиція.

Весною цього року українські правоохоронці зверталися до російських колег, вимагаючи повідомити про місце перебування колишнього міністра внутрішніх справ Миколи Білоконя, екс-голови Державного управління справами Ігоря Бакая, колишнього голови Центральної виборчої комісії України Сергія Ківалова і екс-мера Одеси Руслана Боделана. За оперативними даними, вони знаходяться на території Російської Федерації. Московські міліціонери навіть затримали Ігоря Бакая, але відпустили його. Сергій Ківалов повернувся в Україну самостійно, і продовжує очолювати Юридичну академію в Одесі.

Між Національними бюро Інтерполу в Києві і Москві зав'язалося листування: Київ направляв запити для з'ясування місця знаходження названих вище українських чиновників та їхнього громадянства, але досі цими запитами все й обмежується. Тому міністр внутрішніх справ Юрій Луценко пропонує персонально своєму російському колезі зустрітися (цитую) " на будь-якій території для переговорів". Міністр Луценко відправив відповідного листа керівникові МВС Російської Федерації, про що повідомив журналістів на прес-конференції у Хмельницькому. Там же, він заявив. Що боротьба із злочинністю не має кордонів. І що нинішні – за словами Луценка, прохолодні – стосунки між Україною і Росією треба налагоджувати.

Хоча, на думку радника керівництва Служби безпеки України – голови громадської організації "Міжнародна анти терористична єдність" Олександра Дічека, якраз вимога України повернути чільних представників кучмівської влади навряд чи сприятиме покращенню відносин між Києвом і Москвою. Але, на думку пана Дічека, повернути цих людей в Україну треба і можна – за умови існування політичної волі з боку Росії:

- Політична воля не України потрібна – а політична воля Росії. Достатньо, що орган державної влади України звертається до російської сторони, тобто – є санкція нашого Президента. І якщо Україна і Росія підписали угоду про екстрадицію – питання формальне. І його розв'язання реально залежить від бажання чи небажання керівників Росії зробити такий крок назустріч Україні. Але, якщо з угодою проблема, то вони можуть морочити голову, розтягати процес, мовляв – от ми хотіли, але не можемо.

Колишній начальник Головного управління розвідки України – нині голова міжнародного об'єднання ветеранів розвідки Олександр Скипальський стверджує, що офіційний Київ має повне право вимагати повернення Ігоря Бакая, Миколи Білоконя, Русалан Боделана:

- Є абсолютно всі необхідні підстави, є підписані угоди стосовно екстрадиції злочинців. І неодноразово були випадки передачі як з боку української, так і з боку російської сторони – правда, не такого високого рівня. Тут уже включаються політичні інтереси і державні інтереси як з одного, так і з іншого боку. Але – це тільки, коли порушуються основи законодавства, що перед законом не всі рівні. Я вважаю, що Луценко правий з таким зверненням, а от Російська Федерація може пояснити, наприклад, чому вона не може віддати (чиновників) – так як вона пояснила, принаймні, відносно Ігоря Бакая? Що він там показав принаймні паспорт.

Але, якщо з точки зору прогнозу – то це питання буде не просте. Це вже сфера національної безпеки. Якщо подивитись історію, то Росія завжди використовує таку ситуацію для утворення певної концентрації людей, які (до України) опозиційно налаштовані. А тут люди впливові, потужні, це питання повинно бути перед очима і у Президента, тому що у майбутньому це для нього і для України складає потенційну загрозу.

За словами пана Скипальського, українська сторона зробила свій хід – чим відповість Росія?

Костенко не хоче до Ющенка, Тимошенко і Литвина

(Українська правда)—Голова Української народної партії Юрій Костенко заявив, що УНП не братиме участі у переговорному процесі щодо блокування у форматі трійки "Народний Союз Наша Україна" - "Батьківщина" - Народна партія України. Про це він сказав під час перебування у Львові, повідомляє прес-служба УНП.

"Ми блокуватимемося з тими, хто поділятиме нашу позицію. УНП не може блокуватися з тією політичною силою, яка виступає проти визнання воїнів ОУН-УПА учасниками національно-визвольної боротьби, формування національної енергетичної політики чи підтримки національного товаровиробника, натомість підтримує ЄЕП!", - заявив Костенко.

Водночас голова УНП повідомив, що партія веде переговори "з усіма правоцентристськими партіями щодо можливого блокування на наступних парламентських виборах".

"Мета УНП – сформувати потужну правоцентристську фракцію, яка матиме суттєвий вплив на формування державної політики. Роботу щодо формування спільних команд на виборах до місцевих органів влади вестимуть і обласні організації УНП", - наголосив він.

Він підкреслив, що на цих виборах УНП будуватиме коаліцію "не в традиційний для української політики спосіб".

"Головна умова – конкретний внесок політичної сили: скільки ти представляєш кандидатів до того чи іншого рівня влади, спостерігачів, тощо". Учасниками спільної правоцентристської команди лідер УНП бачить НРУ, УРП "Собор", Республіканську партію, Християнську партію, ВО "Свобода".

За словами Костенка, УНП має низку пріоритетів, з якими партія йтиме на вибори.

"Ми маємо змінити структуру української економіки, і починати цю роботу треба з енергозабезпечення України", - сказав він.

Другим напрямком української перспективи щодо економічного відродження, на думку голови УНП, має стати зняття всіх бар'єрів і обмежень, які стосуються виробництва.

Крим: боротьба за землю триває

Володимир Притула, *Радіо Свобода*

У Криму триває боротьба за землю. З 26–го липня на центральному майдані Симферополя стоїть наметове містечко кримських татар, які вимагають від уряду автономії виділення на Південному узбережжі Криму земельних ділянок для репатріантів. Кримський прем'єр Анатолій Матвієнко сьогодні підписав урядову постанову про пільгове виділення землі раніше депортованим громадянам, але учасники акції протесту – і далі не задоволені. Чому?

Майже 3 десятки наметів під вікнами кабінету кримського прем'єра і великий плакат з надписом "Чи влаштує Господь твої справи, Україно, якщо наша державність, наші будинки, наші землі, наші садичаїри відібрані?!" – все це нагадує, що кримськотатарська проблема не вирішена і за нової влади. І цього тижня вона знову загострилася, коли кілька сотень переважно вихідців із Алуштинського регіону знова відновили свій, як вони назвали, цілодобовий пікет. Почався він із 2-х, а на кінець четверга містечко нараховує вже понад 30 наметів. Пікетувальники вимагають виділення їм землі на Південному узбережжі Криму, аргумендуючи це тим, що до депортації там кримськотатарське населення складало від 50 до 80% населення.

Один з активістів акції протесту Ісмаїл Аблятіпов каже, що репатріанти дуже розчаровані новою кримською владою, яка, фактично, сама їх підштовхує до таких протестів, ігноруючи їхні вимоги. Ісмаїл Аблятіпов: "Вважайте, що Матвієнко сам підштовхує людей на самозахоплення землі, на порушення знову законів. Розумієте, людям вони не залишають нічого іншого. Вибачте, якщо навіть та стара влада їздила, дивилася і казала: так, в Партеніті треба якусь кількість землі знайти і виділити репатріантам. А нова влада їде в Партеніт і, повернувшись, каже: ми розібралися – там землі для кримських татар немає!", - заявив Ісмаїл Аблятіпов.

Прем'єр-міністр автономії Анатолій Матвієнко не згоден з такою критикою. Він повідомив, що кримський уряд щойно затвердив постанову про порядок виділення земельних ділянок раніше депортованим громадянам. І цей документ передбачає спрощену процедуру надання землі репатріантам, але її виділятимуть цій категорії громадян лише у тих регіонах, звідки їх, або їхніх предків вислали під час депортації. Анатолій Матвієнко: "Ми зобов'язані надати людям умови для повернення з місць депортації, включаючи і виділення землі. І філософія цього документу така: ми надаватимемо житло і землю репатріантам у тих місцях, звідки вони, чи їхні предки були депортовані. Сьогодні ж головний конфлікт – вимога: "Дайте нам землю на Південному узбережжі! Причому – усім!" Ми ж сказали, що цього уряд не робитиме. У нас немає такої можливості, більше того, цим самим ризикуємо запустити машину, яку не зупинити", - заявив Анатолій Матвієнко.

Учасники кримськотатарської акції протесту не погоджуються з прем'єр-міністром автономії і кажуть, що на землю на Південному узбережжі Криму мають право всі раніше депортовані. Ісмаїл Аблятіпов продовжує: "Вважаємо, що ця постанова лише для того, щоб наш народ роз'єднати. А ми не хочемо роз'єднуватися. Наш народ і так малелький, але єдиний. А всі ці розмови про вихідців, про уроженців – це тільки на руку владі, яка хоче нас розділити. Але ж у цьому регіоні живе стільки вихідців із Казані, Москви і Пермі! Куди ж їх дівати? Якщо землі всім репатріантам не вистачатиме, то чи готова нова влада виселити чужинців? Не готова! Все це – лише щоб нас посварити і знову поставити у черги і списки, де всі уроженці 15 років уже стоять, і знову власті не будуть нічого вирішувати", - заявив Ісмаїл Аблятіпов, один з мешканців наметового містечка під стінами Ради міністрів Криму на центральному майдані Симферополя.

Вбивця Гетьмана відмовився від свідчень

(Українська правда)—Засуджений до довічного ув'язнення за вбивство Вадима Гетьмана Сергій Кульов, який раніше визнав свою провину в цьому злочині, відмовився від своїх свідчень.

Про це "Українську правду" повідомила його адвокат Євгенія Колодій.

За її словами, Кульов направив до Верховного суду клопотання про перегляд винесеного в 2003 році вироку в порядку виняткового провадження.

Колодій також передала "Українській правді" відповіді на свої питання від Кульова, який зараз перебуває в Бердичівській виправній колонії №70.

Кульов заявляє, що його вирок "повинен бути переглянутий, тому що вся справа сфабрикована".

Він пише, що вперше йому запропонували дати свідчення про свою причетність до вбивства Гетьмана в 2001 році в Житомирському СІЗО – він там перебував як засуджений до трьох з половиною років позбавлення волі за хуліганство.

За словами Кульова, дати свідчення про причетність до вбивства Гетьмана йому запропонували працівники Генпрокуратури – "старший слідчої групи Дробиняк і слідчий Сілін".

"Вони кожен окремо говорили, що потрібно в державних цілях обвинуватити Лазаренка", - сказав Кульов.

Згоду дати свідчення проти себе Кульов пояснив "погрозами" його життю і його родині, а також тим, що, перебуваючи у в'язниці, він "нічим не зможе допомогти". За словами Кульова, слідчий Генпрокуратури Дробиняк говорив, що "так потрібно для уряду, щоб Лазаренко не зміг повернутися" і що "вироком суду потрібно зв'язати Тимошенко й Лазаренка".

Як відомо, у вироку Луганського апеляційного суду сказано, що "суд приймає як достовірні свідчення Кульова, свідків Сердюка, Мар'їнкова про те, що вбивство Гетьмана було замовлено Лазаренком".

Водночас представники Генпрокуратури, знайомі зі справою Гетьмана, скептично поставилися до заяви Кульова.

За словами джерела "Української правди", крім визнання провини Кульовим, була знайдена "маса доказів" його причетності до вбивства Гетьмана. "Слідчі, крім зізнання самого Кульова, повинні були переконатися, що він себе не обмовив – що й було зроблено", - сказав представник Генп-рокуратури, який побажав залишитися неназваним.

Джерело також назвало "звичним явищем", коли засуджені на довічне ув'язнення починають писати клопотання про перегляд вироку.

Водночас генпрокурор Святослав Піскун в ефірі 5 каналу заявив, що відмова Кульова від своїх свідчень навряд чи може вплинути на справу вбивства Гетьмана.

"Я не думаю, що докази по цій справі базувалися лише на доказах Кульова. Суд виносить вироки не за показами, а за комплексним збиранням і оцінкою доказової бази. Доказова база там була достатня. Такі строки так просто нікому не дають. Якщо він засуджений, він засуджений законно", - сказав він.

2005 So-Use Scholarship recipients: Left to Right: Dennis Hunkewich, Chair Scholarship Committee, Kalyna Klymkiw, Tamara Mischena, Adriana Boyko, Yuri Tereshyn

So-Use Credit Union awards students

(So-Use/UkrNews)—At the most recent So-Use Credit Union annual general meeting, the first Mylchenko Scholarships and Sports Bursary were presented to five very deserving student members.

Dennis Hunkewich a Director and Chair of the Scholarship Committee, presented the following C$1,500 Mylchenko Scholarship awards to:

• Adriana Boyko for Academic Studies in Business. A student at the Schulich Business School York University and on the dean's honour list, Adriana's specialty is in the field of accounting;

• Kalyna Klymkiw for Ukrainian Studies. Kalyna, a Fine Arts Cultural Studies with a minor in History, honours student at York University, has continued to take Ukrainian Studies courses since 2004;

• Tamara Mischena for Volunteerism in the community. Tamara will be entering University of Guelph this fall majoring in Political Science. Over the past year she has kept up her honours standing while participating on eleven volunteer committees at school and held eight organizational positions in the Ukrainian Canadian community.

• Yuri Tereshyn for Media studies. Yuri is studying multimedia and Design Technology at Humber College. An 'A' student, he plans to graduate in 2006.

In addition, the Sports Bursary for $1,000 was awarded earlier to Mykhailyk Charalambij who was not able to attend. Mykhailyk not only is studying at Carleton University but is pursuing world medals on behalf of Canada in Flat Water Sprint Canoeing.

Recognizing a need to support young people in our community, So-Use Credit Union past member Alexander Mylchenko left part of his estate to So-Use Credit Union to only be used for this purpose. As a result, four scholarships and one sports bursary were established yearly. Each award is identified in the name of a past Director; *In memory of Boris Oranski* for excellence in any field of post secondary studies; *In memory of William Hunt Hunkewich* for post secondary studies in media or journalism; *In memory of Dr. William Zincheshin*, for work in Ukrainian Studies; *In memory of Panas Stepura* to a student currently involved in Ukrainian Canadian organizations contributing to their growth and/or success; the *Michael Shipowick Sports Bursary* was established to assist young Canadians of Ukrainian heritage competing at world and/or Olympic levels, defray some of their training costs.

"This is an area we feel So-Use Credit Union can most assist its future leaders in Canada", reflected Walter Chewchuk, Chair of the Board of Directors, "We want to give our young members an advantage to reach their goals in life. As well, we feel this is a very important role we have to fulfill, as a credit union, to insure the financial health of our members".

A Scholarship Committee reviews all applications received by Feb. 15 and the awards presented at the So-Use Credit Union Annual General Meeting. Members can get more information at each branch or by visiting the website at <www.so-use.com>.

Marc Sirard, CEO, said: "We thank all the students who applied and congratulate the award recipients for 2005. On behalf of all members and the Board of Directors, we look forward to the new 2006 recipients".

St. Michaels Health Group to begin community outreach program

(SMHG)—Have you found yourself being shunted from one recorded telephone message to another when you call any major organization? Do you know whom to call when you need assistance with health issues, subsidies, payment of taxes, etc.? Do you feel inadequate and frustrated when no answers are available, or when you get a cautious, official response to a simple query? Now, to add to the dilemma, you may be new to Canada, you may be a senior, your command of English may be limited. How can you get assistance?

The Board of Directors of St. Michael's Health Group has approved a new, community-based program to help people in need. The program will be staffed by professionals who speak Ukrainian and English, and will be capable to coordinate problem resolutions. When called, they will establish a clear definition of an issue and help to obtain advice from an agency, government department, city or health professional who can assist. Directions for further resolution will be forwarded to the person in need.

The Community Outreach Program (COP) is a pilot initiative to help members of the community to cut through bureaucracy and inadequate knowledge of how it works. There is no charge for the service. The study will commence with the Ukrainian community in Edmonton. As it develops, the services will be expanded wider. Initially four church parishes have indicated both need and willingness to participate; they are: Ukrainian Catholic parishes of St. Josephat and St. Basil and Ukrainian Orthodox parishes of St. Andrew and St. Michael. Issues of concern will be referred to St. Michael's for investigation and direction.

To assist in the project, St. Michael's Health Group is initiating relationships with such organizations as: Catholic Social Services, 211 help line, Capital Health, City of Edmonton, Ukrainian Canadian Social Services, physicians, clergy, social workers, lawyers, Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Mennonite Multicultural Society, etc. "In our experience we find that location of appropriate definition and simple resolution of problems is required", says Bohdan I. Shulakewych, President and CEO of St. Michael's Health Group. This need has been reflected at the most recent meeting with Ukrainian clergy: Very Rev. Victor Lacusta of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, Very Rev. Mihaljo Planchak of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Very Rev. Mykola Sawchenko of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, and Very Rev. Daniel Wach of St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Parish. The clergy find themselves often being asked for advice, which sometimes goes beyond their capabilities or times. Here is where the COP initiative may be of help.

Initially the program will be staffed by Barbara Riley, who is already with St. Michael's, and later other members and volunteers may be added. Funding for administrative expenses will be provided from St. Michael's revenues, investment income, donations and grants. Very soon a pamphlet will be released to the community outlining the services along with limitations. It is expected that the service will commence in August, 2005.

Wrzesnewskyj Foundation sponsors teachers project

(UWCEC)—Reaching for understanding, six Canadian teachers will travel to Kharkiv, Ukraine this summer after finding a generous sponsor in Liberal Member of Parliament Borys Wrzesnewskyj (Etobicoke Centre) and his family foundation.

After 14 years of designing, producing and carrying out summer additional qualification courses for Ukrainian educators, the volunteer Canadian teachers' requests for continued funding fell on deaf ears in bureaucratic Ottawa. The reason given was, essentially, that very little new material was presented. It must be understood, however, that curricula cannot be constantly and fundamentally changed — such a notion is absurd. The "newness" of each year's program lies in the fact that it reaches a different geographical region.

"Our courses bring into Ukraine a chance for local teachers to hear and experience Western European and North American classroom methodology and educational philosophy" said Bohdan Kolos, Vice-Chair of the Education Council of the Ukrainian World Congress.

"We have traveled to different cities in Western and Central Ukraine," he added. "Our seminars include sessions for primary school teachers and middle school teachers in literature, economics, history and we even have seminars for school administrators. I always tell teachers that they need to update their skills... add to their body of knowledge to make themselves better. Students are becoming more demanding and one cannot expect them to sit and listen to someone lecturing," concluded Bohdan.

"When I heard that these teachers were at risk of not going, I felt the need to save the project because I know Eastern Ukraine specifically needs more exposure to Western approaches. The Orange Revolution in Ukraine was a beginning and much work needs to be done in that part of the world. Canada cannot afford to sit idly by when others need our expertise. I'm in favour of making the world safer through education and sharing our values." stated Wrzesnewskyj.

Borys Wrzesnewskyj, M.P. presents a $10,000 cheque to Bohdan Kolos Vice-Chair of the Education Council of the World Council of Ukrainians. (left to right: Mirka Onuch, Nadia Luciw, Roman Wrzesnewskyj (Foundation Board President), Bohdan Kolos, Borys Wrzesnewskyj M.P., Oksana Wynnyckyj (Honorary Canadian Counsel in Lviv), Marijka Stadnyk, Valentina Kuryliw, Leda Lubynskyj)

Півроку нової влади: образ революції блідне, ейфорія вивітрюється

Сергій Драчук, *Радіо Свобода*

До пізнього вечора тривало 25 липня за зачиненими дверима засідання Кабінету міністрів за участі президента Віктора Ющенка. Воно було присвячене першим шести місяцям року, а тим самим і першому півріччю нинішньої влади.

Західні журналісти теж не оминули увагою перші шість місяців нової української влади й коментують нинішню дату так: минуло півроку після української Помаранчевої революції, і її образ починає бліднути, а евфорія українців вивітрилася.

Через півроку після приходу на посаду президента Віктора Ющенка критика на його адресу й адресу керівника його уряду Юлії Тимошенко все наростає. Так само панує невдоволення й економічною політикою нової влади. Про це пише сьогодні німецька газета "Файненшл Таймз Дойчланд".

Автор статті починає її з найновішого українського скандалу навколо дорогого авта 19-літнього сина президента Віктора Ющенка. Первісна евфорія вивітрилася лише через півроку при владі героя української революції Ющенка. А чимало українських засобів інформації вже не бояться різко критикувати президента.

Зокрема, пише газета, Ющенкові й Тимошенко дорікають, що ті не дотримують обіцянок, особливо ж про прозорість і правову державу, що деякі члени уряду стежать у першу чергу за власними діловими інтересами, а до реформи правосуддя ще й не підходили. "Файненшл Таймз Дойчланд" наводить думку, що й нова влада, як і її попередниця, може використовувати правосуддя у власних політичних цілях.

А закордон із підозрою спостерігає в першу чергу за економічною політикою. Йдеться про новий продаж уже приватизованих підприємств через те, що їх, як стверджують, порозпродували за смішні гроші друзям і родичам старого керівництва. Найяскравішим прикладом цієї політики називають "Криворіжсталь". Ця так звана "реприватизація" створює правову невпевненість і відлякує інвесторів, кажуть критики. А міністерство економіки минулого тижня суттєво зменшило власний прогноз економічного зростання, нагадує німецька газета.

Тим часом серед значної частини мешканців України Ющенко й Тимошенко спершу були надзвичайно популярні, в першу чергу завдяки широкосяжній соціальній програмі, яка майже подвоїла пенсії й збільшила виплати на новонароджених дітей до 1 тисячі 400 євр. Але, зазначає "Файненшл Таймз Дойчланд", зростання інфляції цін на споживчі товари зжерло більшу частку соціальних виплат і також і довіри до нової влади. Прикладом цього є зростання цін на цукор, а перед цим на бензин.

Автор статті звертає увагу й на те, що президентська канцелярія намагалася в старому стилі давати державним телеканалам "поради" щодо передач, але зазнала невдачі через протести засобів інформації. Головне випробування для нової демократії ще попереду: це парламентські вибори в березні наступного року. Українці нетерпляче чекають, чи дозволить влада чесну передвиборчу боротьбу. Показовою буде й планована приватизація дальших державних підприємств, пише німецька газета "Файненшл Таймз Дойчланд".

А британський щоденник "Індепендент" починає статтю з того, що революції – небезпечні штуки, навіть якщо вони мирні й оповиті помаранчевим сяйвом. Бо через півроку після інавгурації Віктора Ющенка на демократично обраного президента його влада, схоже, втратила більшу частку первісної цілеспрямованості, вважає авторка статті.

Евфорію вона побачила лише на поверхні київського життя, де на майдані Незалежності можна купити книжки Ющенка й про Ющенка, портрети чи бюсти Ющенка й Тимошенко, а поруч – церковні іконки. "Ікони дня вчорашнього й сьогоднішнього поруч одні з одними",- пише авторка.

Але розчарування вже відлунює в стовпчиках газет, які раніше не шкодували підтримки помаранчевим силам. Звичайно, було зрозуміло, веде далі "Індепендент", що Помаранчевій революції буде непросто втілити пов'язані з нею очікування, – які до того ж були нерідко хибними. Наприклад, інтелігенція найбільше сподівалася, що настане край усюдисущій корупції. Журналісти мали надію на свободу писати, що схочуть, і то без жодних фінансових обмежень.

Такі прагнення були утопічні, наголошено в статті. А тим, хто нині поповнює лави сповнених сумнівів, нова влада дала як винагороду за героїчні зусилля на морозі минулої зими самі лише подорожчання, сварки в керівництві й низку поспішних і непродуманих політичних кроків, заснованих на вільноринковій ідеології, яку цілком розуміє мало хто з українців, пише британський щоденник.

Серед переліку владних ініціатив, які не спрацювали, газета наводить перегляд попередніх приватизацій, котрі вважали корумпованими. Мешканцям країни все здавалося дуже просто: відібрати в олігархів-мільйонерів нечесно здобуті статки й роздавати багатства всім навколо. Але для обраної влади, яка діє чи принаймні намагається діяти, з оглядом на міжнародні обставини це не просте завдання, пише "Індепендент" і теж згадує "Криворіжсталь".

За невдачу нової влади вважає газета й те, що Верховна Рада не схвалила пакет законопроектів, які необхідні для вступу України до Світової організації торгівлі й також належать до "плану дій" для зближення з Євросоюзом. Якщо розчарування Ющенком відобразиться в березневих виборах і вони не дадуть більш реформаторського парламенту, то будь-які шанси законодавчо здійснити серйозну реструктуризацію економіки, вже не кажучи про прискорення вступу до ЄС, буде втрачено принаймні на кілька років, зазначає британський щоденник.

Серед багатьох закордонних патронів Ющенка,йдеться в статті, існує серйозне занепокоєння, що поступ іде далеко не тими темпами, як сподівалися.

Свято українців Боснії "Червона калина"

"Ой у лузі червона калина похилилася,
Чогось наша славна Україна зажурилася,
А ми тую червону калину підіймемо,
А ми нашу славну Україну, гей, гей, розвеселимо! "

(Інфо служба Товариства "Просвіта")—17-го липня у селі Дев'ятина у Боснії і Герцеговині організовано 5-ий Огляд української фольклорної творчости "Червона калина".

Організаторами маніфестації були Культурно-просвітня спілка українців імені Тараса Шевченка з Баня Луки, Українська Греко-Католицька парафія "Успіння Пресвятої Богородиці" Дев'ятина та Культурно-просвітне товариство ім.Івана Франка з Хорвачан.

Програма складалася з Святочної Служби Божої котру відправили священики з Боснії о.Петро Ситник з Дев'ятини, о.Мирослав Кринишин з Баня Луки, о.Петро Овад з Принявора, вікар о.Михайло Стахник з Козарцю та о. Ярослав Лещишин з Липовлян у Хорватії і о.Петро Ступ'як з Каніжи у Хорватії.

По Службі Божій на церковнім майдані організовано концертну програму, де презентували свою творчість Українські культурні товариства з Хорватії, "Україна" з Славонського Броду, "Іван Франко" з Вуковару, із Сербії і Чорногорії ім.Івана Сенюка з Кули та Боснії і Герцеговини товариства ім.Івана Франка з Хорвачан, два товариства імені Тараса Шевченка з Баня Луки та Принявора і "Червона калина" з Лишні. З причин аварії автобуса присутніми не були товариства з Сербії, "Кобзар" з Нового Саду та "Коломийка" з Сремської Митровиці.

Під час програми чергувались атрактивні українські танці і різноманітності сприяли пісні у виконанні співацьких груп й солістів. Організатори для учасників влаштували спільний обід а потім організовано спортивні змагання у футболі й волейболі. Під вечір, дотримуючись доброї традиції, були музики, розважальний вечір чому найбільше радовалась присутня молодь, а й старші пригадали колишню активну участь у таких заходах.

Село Дев'ятина є синонімом витривалості українського народу у діаспорі. Ці простори Боснії були між першими осередками поселення українців кінцем 19-ого століття, щоб потім їх декількома хвилями "рознесло" по тепер окремих державах. І родинні зв'язки є міцними, але й відчуття національної єдності, спільних інтересів у збереженні національної самобутності є поштовхом щоб хоча б раз у рік зустрітись на боснійські "ЧЕРВОНІ КАЛИНІ".

Маймескул одержав нагороду від АСАА

Генеральне Консульство України повідомляє, що 23 липня ц.р. в ході пленарного засідання щорічного форуму Асоціації судових адвокатів Америки (АСАА) Президентом Асоціації Т. Смітом в урочистій обстановці у приміщенні "Шератон Центр" м.Торонто Послу України в Канаді М. Маймескулу було передано відзнаку, якою нагороджено Судову палату у цивільних справах Верховного Суду України за "сміливий прояв незалежності судової гілки влади при розгляді позову В. Ющенка".

При врученні нагороди Президент АСАА у своєму виступі високо оцінив діяльність Верховного Суду України у драматичні часи Помаранчевої Революції в Україні, що, на його думку, стало свідченням формування в нашій Державі дійсно незалежної та ефективної судової системи.

У своєму слові у відповідь український Посол від імені Верховного Суду України висловив слова щирої вдячності за високу нагороду такої авторитетної міжнародної Асоціації. Українським дипломатом було наголошено, що сміливе та високопрофесійне рішення Судової палати у цивільних справах ВС України відкрило можливість мирного та справедливого розв'язання драматичної ситуації, що склалася, а вручена нагорода є відзнакою мужності та відваги всього народу України, який став на захист завоювань молодої демократії в нашій державі.

Висловлено також вдячність світовому демократичному співтовариству, зокрема Американській та Канадській спільнотам за їх підтримку демократичних сил в Україні в їх боротьбі на захист свого права вільного вибору, проти спроб фальсифікації та маніпуляції результатів Президентських виборів. На процедурі вручення нагороди був присутній Генеральний консул України в Торонто.

Україна й далі без стратегії

Польські експерти підсумовують півроку правління нової української влади

Роман Крик, *Радіо Свобода*

Нова українська влада поки що не виправдовує багатьох покладених на неї очікувань. Так вважає польський експерт з Центру східного аналізу у Варшаві Анна Ґурська. А головною проблемою, на її думку, є відсутність стратегії розвитку країни. У розмові з кореспондентом радіо "Свобода" польський аналітик зауважила, що прийнята за основу політика інтеграції у європейські структури - це добре, проте дотепер не розроблено механізмів, які б на практиці просунули б Україну в цьому напрямку. Центр східних досліджень було створено колишнім президентом Польщі Лехом Валенсою, нині від діє під егідою польського уряду і готує закриті рекомендації для перших осіб польській державі.

Анна Ґурська з польського урядового Центру східного аналізу вважає, що завдяки Помаранчевій революції, а потім політиці нової влади громадяни України нарешті відчули себе вільними людьми. Це, на її думку, надзвичайно важливо. Так само, як і те, що з українських журналістів були зняті цензурні шори, хоча, наголошує Ґурська, журналісти нерідко ототожнюють свободу слова із необхідністю лаяти на всі можливі способи державну владу.

Підбиваючи підсумки піврічної діяльності української влади, Анна Ґурська зауважує, що це достатньо довгий відрізок часу для опрацювання детальної стратегії розвитку держави. Проте, на думку польського аналітика, такої програми уряд у Києві дотепер не розробив.

"Мені здається, що перш за все для української нової влади основною проблемою є відсутність стратегії розвитку України. Тому що і стратегія, і програма відсутні. Тоді важко будувати будь-які розділи і обов'язки, будь-які проекти і будь-які програми. Я не знаю, як довго можна жити без такої стратегії. Всім відомо, що нова влада такої стратегії не збудувала і здається, що зараз вона ще далека від того. З цього ідуть негаразди перш за все у внутрішній політиці, у тому, що всі роблять те, що, на їхню думку, важливо для країни. Тут намагання ідуть в слушному напрямку, але не можна нічого будувати, коли невідомо, до чого це повинно наближати Україну".

Пані Ґурська вважає, що запропонова українською владою ідея інтеграції з ЄС - це добре, проте поки що це тільки ідея, позбавлена детального плану втілення у життя. А декларації нової влади на зовнішній арені не збігаються із тим, що робить ця ж влада на місцях. Анна Ґурська продовжує:

"Мені здається, якщо прийняти членство в ЄС як основу такої стратегії, то треба було тоді досить швидко будувати конкретні проекти, конкретні програми, переносити ці стратегічні цілі на завдання для української влади на різних щаблях уже на місці. Те не відбулось, не збудовано ніякої солідної структури, яка б координувала ці дії в напрямку Європейського союзу. І тоді не можна казати, що ця стратегія реалізується в Україні".

Тим часом відомий оглядач популярного польського щоденника "Ґазети Виборчої" Давид Варшавський вважає, що нині, після шести місяців є підстави говорити про низку успіхів нової української влади. На його думку те, що хабарі в Україні подорожчали, свідчить зокрема про наявність боротьби влади з тим явищем.

Проте успіхів, на думку польського оглядача, все ще замало. Він вважає, що зміни в Україні відбувалися б швидше, якби Європейський Союз також зробив зусилля й таки увімкнув зелене світло для ідеї інтеграції України в ЄС. Як наголошує Давид Варшавський, в Європейському Союзі панує криза, через що офіційний Київ залишається самотнім у своїх намаганнях збудувати модерну державу західного зразка. На жаль, Україна залишилася наодинці зі своїм надзвичайно складним завданням, підсумовує польський оглядач.

Candidate for sainthood enshrined in Winnipeg Church

By Alison Mayes,
Winnipeg Free Press, July 16, 2005

Few Winnipeggers realize it, but a candidate for Canadian sainthood is enshrined in a church just off Main Street. The Blessed Bishop and Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky was a Ukrainian "hero of faith" who died in Winnipeg in 1973 after enduring 30 years of Soviet persecution.

He has reached the same stage on the path to sainthood as Mother Theresa. Extensive research is under way to document his life, and verify blessings and miracles associated with him. In fact, if you've experienced anything miraculous after visiting the shrine, you're urged to provide your story. The Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine, located at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church on Jefferson Avenue, might not be everyone's idea of a summer tourist attraction. But whether or not you share the belief that the bishop's remains are holy relics, the site is both visually striking and historically significant. Established in 2002, after Pope John Paul II beatified Velychkovsky in 2001, it's one of only two martyr's shrines in Canada. (The other is in Midland, Ont., honouring 17th-century Jesuit missionaries who became saints in 1930.)

Visitors to St. Joseph's can spend time in two separate, air-conditioned areas. The shrine, elegantly designed by Winnipeg's Ben Wasylyshen, is a serene chapel where pilgrims can pray over the holy remains, encased in a stainless-steel sarcophagus that was sealed by representatives of the Vatican. Thirty-three pairs of red granite tiles are inlaid in the floor, symbolizing the footsteps of Christ and the martyr. As pilgrims enter the shrine, they pass two sacred icons — highly symbolic paintings — that are considered objects of veneration. Other artworks include a stained-glass window of the White Angel of the Resurrection, and a contemporary resurrection cross behind the sarcophagus.

Then there's the professional-calibre museum. It includes many artifacts, from small emblems the martyr wore secretly during his imprisonment in Ukraine, to ornate vestments he was finally able to wear openly in Canada. A nine-minute video — playable in three languages — traces Velychkovsky's harrowing but inspiring life.

Born in 1903, Velychkovsky was a Redemptorist priest. From the 1940s until 1972, he refused to renounce his faith under the Soviet regime. He suffered interrogation, imprisonment in brutal labour camps, and chemical, electrical and mental torture by the KGB. At one point he was on death row, sentenced to die by firing squad.

"He went through it never afraid, never resentful. He prayed for his guards," says Slava Yurashchuk, a 25-year-old University of Manitoba history student who emigrated from Ukraine as a teenager, and is working at the shrine this summer. When not in prison during the 1950s and '60s, Velychkovsky was a leader of the underground Catholic church, taking great personal risks to maintain forbidden rituals. (Displayed in the museum are a chalice and container for communion bread, of miniature size so they could be hidden.) In 1963, he was secretly ordained a bishop.

In 1972, near death after several years in prison, he was exiled and came to Winnipeg at the invitation of a Ukrainian associate. Boris Kyba, former pastor of St. Joseph's, remembers meeting Velychkovsky in Toronto during the year the martyr spent in Canada before his death.

"He was mentally and physically broken, but spiritually certainly not. We all knew he had suffered tremendously ... but he wouldn't talk about it. His main theme when he spoke here was 'Be faithful to the call of Christ,' which is what kept him going."

The museum is an ongoing project, with new evidence of Velychkovsky's life frequently coming to light. Part of Yurashchuk's summer job is translating videotaped interviews with witnesses in Ukraine who knew the bishop. Shrine co-ordinator Mary Jane Kalenchuk and Father John Sianchuk are now in Ukraine on a month-long research trip, gathering more accounts and artifacts.

On a trip last year, they were directed by nuns to dig in a garden in Lviv where, nearly 40 years ago, Velychkovsky buried a jar containing forbidden church documents from Rome

At first the Winnipeggers could find nothing. Just as they were about to give up, they unearthed the jar — with the intercession of the martyr, they believe. The secret documents, one typed on cloth so it could be sewn into clothing, are now preserved in the museum. Supported by donations, the shrine and museum attract several thousand visitors a year, including many international pilgrims. Internet orders for relics, such as vials of oil that have been touched to the holy remains, arrive from places such as the Philippines and Brazil. If and when Velychkovsky is canonized a saint — a process that could take years — the site would presumably become a major draw for the faithful.

"(Velychkovsky) was a big Ukrainian clergy member," says Yurashchuk. "(Ukrainian church authorities) have requested many a time for him to be returned to Ukraine. But he continues to do his work better here. He provides people this important place where they can go and reflect and venerate. It's a very significant thing that he's here." The Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine is located at 250 Jefferson Ave. It's open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and during all liturgical celebrations. Closed Mondays. For more information or to book guided tours, call 338-7321.

GC representative calls Russian Orthodox to tolerance

(RISU)—During a recent visit to Kazan, Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexis II stated that he considers a visit of the Pope to Moscow impossible until the Vatican rejects proselytism on the territory of Russia. The patriarch also named "the rebirth of the Union [i. e. the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, UGCC] in western regions of Ukraine," allegedly accompanied by violence and seizure of churches, as an obstacle. Fr. Volodymyr Havrylenko, protopresbyter of Yavoriv in Lviv region, has commented on the patriarch's statement, proceeding from historical facts. RISU's Ukrainian-language site posted the news on July 28.

"After the forced liquidation of the UGCC in 1946 at a pseudo-sobor [assembly of church hierarchs] orchestrated by the Soviet government, several hundred church buildings belonging to our church were instantly given to the Russian Orthodox Church [ROC] for use," said Fr. Havrylenko. "When in the late 1980s and early 1990s citizens of our country were again able to openly profess their faith and register their communities, they massively came back to the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Their churches came back with them. We have not found a single instance when in western Ukraine UGCC faithful seized a church that had been constructed by ROC faithful."

He added he has no doubt that the ROC, which received the churches, maintained and used them for religious purposes, but for the ROC.

"Many of the faithful, who never stopped considering themselves Greek Catholics, attended these churches and maintained them. However, when the possibility arose to openly declare their denominational allegiance, they did this without hesitating," Fr. Havrylenko said.

According to the priest, the ROC used to accept faithful from Ukraine into its spiritual schools, but educated them for itself, not for the Greek Catholic Church. This is proven by the fact, he said, that even now much of the ROC clergy and episcopate hail from western Ukraine, where the concentration of Ukrainian Greek Catholics is highest.

"When in the early 1990s many of the graduates of Orthodox religious schools decided to become Greek Catholic, this happened not on the basis of the training they received there. These were individual decisions by whoever made them, which, however ran contrary to the instructions of their educators, who did not support the transfer of these priests to the church of their ancestors.

"This time, too, we see the ROC state its readiness for dialogue, but 'under condition.' Meanwhile, according to the position held by His Beatitude Lubomyr (Husar), head of the UGCC, and repeated in a recent interview with the 'Day' newspaper: 'The situation in Ukraine should be such that every Christian can freely choose his or her church and allegiance. If you want to be subject to Moscow, may God be with you; to Constantinople or Rome, may God be with you. We shall have true religious freedom only when these words that churches use today go out of use: 'You are a schismatic, you, a heretic.' We should, after all, remember that we all have come out of the same old Kyivan Church. It is under this condition that it will be possible to discuss church problems, but not before. Nobody should prohibit anything to anyone, or blame them, but always respect the choice of the next one. That will be a coming together.

"I dream of achieving true religious tolerance in our Ukraine, not indifference, but precisely tolerance... Christ founded one church. Therefore each one selects his or her own way, but necessarily respects the choice of the other one," Fr. Havrylenko concluded.

UOC-MP organizations oppose reburial of UOC-KP bishop in St. Sophia's

(RISU)—A recent address of the Society of the Repressed in Ukraine to Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, requesting reburial of the remains of Bishop Volodymyr Romaniuk, founder of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church–Kyivan Patriarchate (UOC-KP), on the territory of St. Sophia's Cathedral in Kyiv has caused sharp criticism from the Union of Orthodox Brotherhoods of Ukraine and the Orthodox Brotherhood of St. Alexander Nevsky. The organizations say that such reburial will "not only oppress the interests of the canonical Orthodox Church in Ukraine [i. e. the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP)], but will be generally anti-Orthodox in character." blagovest-info.ru posted this news on July 20.

"The Orthodox public of Ukraine, represented by the Union of Orthodox Brotherhoods of Ukraine and the Orthodox Brotherhood of St. Alexander Nevsky, considers the appearance of such plans a manifestation of sacrilege against an Orthodox sanctuary not only of ancient Rus and all the eastern Slavic nations, who consider Kyivan Rus their cradle, but of the entire Orthodox world, and calls the current government not to allow realization of these criminal designs," reads the address.

"Should similar anti-Orthodox and sacrilegious plans be realized, the Orthodox community will consider them the beginning of repression against canonical Orthodoxy, a crime against the conscience and historical truth of the Orthodox people of Ukraine. This gives us the right, according to the social concept of our church, to come out in defense of our holy places and turn to the international community, above all to the brotherly peoples of the same blood, for support and help," the address of the UOC-MP organizations says.

UOC–KP bishop claims unequal treatment from state

(RISU)—Bishop Yakiv of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church–Kyivan Patriarchate (UOC–KP) eparchy of Odesa and Balta expressed his regret that, in his opinion, the local authorities of southern Ukrainian Odesa show no desire to cooperate with UOC-KP clergy.

"The Ukrainian Orthodox Church–Moscow Patriarchate is given preference. The [authorities'] attitude to us is not equal," Bishop Yakiv said. RISU's Ukrainian-language site posted the news on July 21.

The bishop thanked the organizers of the meeting between the Executive Committee of the Odesa City Administration for Internal Policy and the Spiritual Council of Christian Denominations of Odesa. This event, as RISU already reported, took place on July 20 in Odesa's City Hall.

HEARING CARE CLINIC

191, Londonderry Mall - 137 Ave. & 66 St.

❖ Hearing Assessment ❖ Digital Hearing Aids
❖ Repairs & Batteries ❖ Custom Ear Protection
❖ Counselling & Rehabilitation
❖ Direct Billing of Insurance Claims, WCB, DVA & AADL

To make an appointment call

413-8833

If you like this paper, but have not yet subscribed

Ensure you get each issue delivered to your home

Subscribe to Ukrainian News

PRICES:

In Canada: 1 Year (24 Issues) $35.00 (CND) (GST included)
2 Years (48 Issues) $65.00 (CND) (GST included)
In the U.S.A.: Same schedule as above, except in U.S. Dollars
Outside Canada and the U.S.A.: Twice the U.S.A. rate.

Please fill out the form below and mail, along with a cheque or money order payable to Ukrainian News to:
Ukrainian News
Suite 1, 12227 - 107 Avenue
Edmonton, AB, T5M 1Y9

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Prov. _____ P. Code _____

New satellite deal reached with Japan

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine will build a satellite for Japan and will launch two Japanese satellites into space in October, perhaps leading the way for US$1 billion in Japanese investments, President Viktor Yushchenko said July 21.

Yushchenko, on a visit to Tokyo, also said Ukraine would back Japan's bid to become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council to reflect Japanese economic might.

"I am pleased that today we have agreed that the next Japanese satellite will be produced in Ukraine," Yushchenko told members of Japan's Parliament.

Yushchenko, on his first trip to Japan after assuming the presidency in January, seeks to drum up greater investments from Japan to boost Ukraine's slowing economy.

Other than surging investments in short-term government bonds earlier this year, foreign investors have so far been cautious in stepping up long-term investments in manufacturing. Many investors are awaiting the outcome of the next general election due in March 2006 before committing to major projects.

But Yushchenko said after talks with Japanese business leaders and government officials he had more confidence that the situation will change.

"Today, we feel that we will come home with a good investment portfolio worth more than $1 billion," Yushchenko said, adding "the aerospace sector is a priority for us."

Ukraine, which is known for having built Sputnik, the world's first satellite, for the Soviet Union back in 1957, has technology, but often lacks financing for major projects.

Ukraine also manufactures a range of space rockets. It will use one of the rockets, Dnipro, for launching the Japanese satellites into orbit later this year.

In addition to the aerospace, projects that may receive financial backing from Japan include erecting of a new airport terminal in Boryspil near Kiev and building a bridge over the Dnipro River, Yushchenko said.

The planned investments would be a major turnaround for Japan, which had so far invested only $50 million into the Ukrainian economy, far less than investments made by the United States, Germany and Britain.

At a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, Yushchenko offered Ukraine's political muscle in backing Japan's bid to join the U.N. Security Council.

Japan, Brazil, Germany and India have drafted a joint resolution earlier this month that anticipates expanding the permanent membership of the Security Council by six and non-permanent membership by four.

Ukraine was one of 23 countries that co-sponsored the resolution.

"Ukraine is ready to be a good partner of Japan in East Asia and Europe," Yushchenko said.

The Council has had the same five permanent members with veto power — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — since the United Nations was established in the wake of World War II. Ten other nations are elected as non-permanent members for two-year rotation terms.

Koizumi and Yushchenko also praised the conclusion of bilateral negotiations between Japan and Ukraine needed for Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization. Ukraine is one of the countries seeking to join the WTO by the end of this year.

Japanese banks may lend up to $150M to Antonov

(Ukrainian Journal)—Japanese banks may provide up to $150 million in lending for a leasing company that would pay for manufacturing of Ukraine's Antonov aircraft, Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Kinakh said July 23.

The money is about 15% of a $1 billion leasing fund that the government seeks to create in order to turn Antonov into a major corporation selling aircraft around the world.

Kinakh said Japanese companies were primarily interested in financing the An-148, a regional jet, which is currently going through a range of flight tests to obtain an international flight certificate.

"This is one of the promising directions because An-148 is one of the best machines in its class," Kinakh said in Hiroshima, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Kinakh is a member of a Ukrainian team led by President Viktor Yushchenko that is seeking to secure investments and long-term financing from Japan to boost manufacturing projects in Ukraine.

The talks over Antonov aircraft underscore the priority that Yushchenko places on development of Ukraine's aircraft industry, which produces heavy cargo and mid-range cargo and passenger planes.

An-148 could be the most successful project, analysts said. It is supposed to replace aging fleet of regional turbo-prop airplanes in the former Soviet Union. But its competitive price of between $16 million and $18 million may position the aircraft well on other world markets, analysts said.

An-148 is almost a third more efficient compared with other aircraft of similar class, according to Antonov, which estimates that former Soviet states may need about 170 planes within the next seven years.

The overall world demand for an efficient regional jet is estimated at 500 planes between 2006 and 2013, analysts said.

Illyushin Finance, a Russian aircraft leasing company, said the number of orders for An-148 had been already reported at more than 50, mostly from Russian airlines. Illyushin expects the aircraft manufacturer to start deliveries next year after obtaining the certificate in early 2006.

Russians shut down two refineries in Ukraine

Business

(Ukrainian Journal)—Russian oil company Alliance Oil shut down its Ukrainian oil refinery in Kherson on Aug. 1 for a 4.5-week maintenance to improve safety and quality of produced gasoline, the company said.

The shutdown of Kherson NaftoPererobka, Ukraine's No. 3 oil refinery, comes less than a week after the stoppage of Lukoil-Odesa, the No. 4 refinery, owned by Russian oil major Lukoil.

The latest shutdown comes at a bad time when Ukrainian gasoline prices have been skyrocketing amid concerns over supplies, but also reflecting growing oil prices on world markets.

The stoppage of Kherson will probably put further stress on gasoline markets despite assurances from Alliance that it had accumulated enough gasoline to run its chain of gas filling stations across Ukraine.

The shutdown of Kherson confirms fears recently aired by Anatoliy Matviyenko, the head of the Crimean government, that Lukoil's stoppage will most likely be followed by similar actions by other Russian oil companies. He specifically mentioned Kherson, but also TNK-BP's Linos.

Matviyenko has said the developments if coupled by other shutdowns, could lead to serious shortages of gasoline in Ukraine and further boost the prices that had been already facing major upward pressure.

Gasoline prices rose about 16% over the past three weeks, the biggest growth since gasoline shortages in May had grounded thousands of Ukrainian cars to a halt.

The price of 95-octane gasoline, the most popular fuel, rose 6% within days after Lukoil had shut its oil refinery the previous week. The gas is now quoted at 3.7 hryvnias per liter at most gas stations across Kyiv, up from 3.5 hryvnias before the Lukoil-Odesa shutdown and up from 3.2 hryvnias three weeks ago, according to data provided by oil companies.

Any further increases in gasoline may lead to political repercussions by putting significant pressure on the government of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko ahead of general election in March 2006.

The government is scrambling to keep consumer inflation at below 10% this year, while some analysts see the prices growing at least 12% in 2005. The shutdown also put downward pressure on economic growth.

Kherson refinery has already been out of operation for maintenance for two months ending mid-June. The refinery was supposed to be closed for one month, but subsequently extended the closure for another month without providing any reason.

Ukraine's gasoline shortages in May were aggravated by the stoppage of two oil refineries, TNK-BP's Linos, Ukraine's No. 2 refinery, and Alliance's Kherson.

On Aug. 1, Alliance said Kherson should be able to resume operation on Sept. 1, and assured motorists that it had accumulated enough gasoline to run its gas pump chain.

The frequent stoppages of Kherson suggest the refinery is unlikely to meet its forecast to refine at least 2 million tons of crude in 2005.

Kherson, which is capable of refining 7.1 million tons of crude/year, refined 679,700 tons in January-June, up from 586,300 tons refined a year ago. In 2004, Kherson refined 1.56 million tons of oil

Government lowers 2005 growth forecast

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine's economic growth will be slower than expected this year due to a weaker external demand for steel, high social payouts and a slowdown in investments, a government official said Aug. 2.

The economy is likely to expand between 6% and 6.5% on the year in 2005, compared with 8.2% earlier expected, said Vadym Pishcheyko, the head of macroeconomic department at the Economy Ministry.

This is the first time that a senior government official admitted the economy had been seriously slowing down this year and the government had been working to revise the growth forecast.

"It is impossible to meet the original growth forecast this year," Pishcheyko said. "The forecast will be revised."

There were mounting signs of the economic slowdown since the beginning of the year, but government officials had so far been defending the original growth forecast.

The economy expanded 1.1% on the year in June, the worst performance over the past four years, slowing down from 3.6% growth recorded in May, according to the State Statistics Committee.

The economic growth in the first half of the year was reported at 4%, down from 4.7% reported in January-May, the committee said.

The economy has been slowing down this year due a dramatic decline in external demand for steel, which accounts for a third of Ukraine's exports, analysts said.

The steel sector was especially badly hit in May and in June, when several steel mills had been forced to shut operation following a massive cancellation of export contracts.

The turnaround in the steel sector was accompanied by falling steel prices on world markets due to increased supply after the commissioning of several giant steelmakers in China and India, analysts said.

But there were also domestic factors that had contributed to the slowdown, including a dramatic increase in social payments and a slowdown in capital investments, Pishcheyko said.

"What happened is a shift of money from industrial sector to the household sector," Pishcheyko said, referring to the government's move to increase pensions and other social payments this year.

The capital investments slowed amid widespread talk of a possible re-privatization action against those owners that had apparently used corrupt links to the previous government to gain the assets.

But in June President Viktor Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and Parliament Speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn signed a declaration assuring investors that there will be no re-privatization action.

Pishcheyko said the government still sees consumer inflation at 9.8% in 2005, which is in line with the government forecast, despite recent increase in gasoline prices.

Ukraine to test possible use of pipeline for Russia, Europe shipments

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine will run a test next month of whether it's technically possible to ship Caspian Sea crude to Europe via the same oil pipeline that carries Russian crude, an official said Aug. 2. The test, if successful, would open way for Caspian oil shipments via the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline to Europe without waiting for the completion of a link to Poland. Oleksandr Todiychuk, the head of UkrTransNafta, the oil pipeline monopoly, said the government had recently urged the company to conduct the test as soon as possible, Interfax-Ukraine reported. During the test, UkrTransNafta will move up to 20,000 metric tons of Ukrainian-extracted crude, which is of a different quality than the Russian crude, via Druzhba oil pipeline to Slovakia and the Czech Republic. The test is meant to show that Caspian crude and Russian crude, which also have different qualities and prices, can be moved in different shipments via the same pipeline without mixing them up.

Yushchenko signs law suspending Ukrtelekom privatization

(RFE/RL)—President Viktor Yushchenko has signed into law a bill passed by parliament on July 5 suspending the privatization of the Ukrainian telecommunications giant Ukrtelekom, Interfax-Ukraine reported on July 26.

The president's press office announced that the suspension will continue until the government comes up with a new privatization plan.

The original law allowing for Ukrtelekom's privatization was passed on July 13, 2000 and allowed for the sale of a 42.86 percent stake, with 50 percent plus one share remaining with the state.

The additional 7.14 percent of shares was to be sold to Ukrtelekom employees.

A tender was to have taken place in August 2004 but was suspended by former President Leonid Kuchma, who said that the sale would fuel pre-election speculation about potential buyers.

Ukraine in quest for Iranian gas

By Vladimir Socor

(Jamestown Foundation)—Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council Secretary, Petro Poroshenko, and Naftohaz Ukrainy chairman Oleksiy Ivchenko paid little-noted visits to Iran on July 14 and July 24-25, respectively. The visits in quick succession evidenced Kyiv's sense of urgency about reducing its dependence on Russian energy supplies, as well as its medium-term ambition to increase Ukraine's role as an energy transit corridor to European Union countries.

Poroshenko and Ivchenko held talks with Iran's Oil Minister Bijan Namdar-Zanganeh and Deputy Oil Minister Hadi Nezhad-Hoseyinian. Poroshenko was also received by Iran's newly elected President Mahmud Ahmadinejad. Poroshenko and Ivchenko recalled that President Viktor Yushchenko had in 2000, while prime minister, initiated discussions with Iran for energy supplies to Ukraine. Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko has also spoken more than once recently in favor of discussions with Iran for oil and gas.

The Tehran meetings discussed options for delivery of Iranian natural gas to Ukraine and farther afield into Europe. Three possible transit routes were considered: a) Iran-Armenia-Georgia-Russia-Ukraine-Europe; b) Iran-Armenia-Georgia-Black Sea-Ukraine-Europe; and c) Iran-Turkey-Black Sea-Ukraine-Europe.

Under any of these versions, Iran would finance the pipeline construction on its own territory. Presumably, this would enable the countries participating in such a project to steer clear of violating the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act of the United States, which penalizes any sizeable foreign investment in energy projects on Iran's territory.

It was agreed during these meetings to form expert groups, exchange information on feasibility of projects, identify participant companies and the shape of a possible consortium, select a transit route, make preliminary calculations on investments, determine volumes of gas for delivery to Ukraine and EU countries, and set prices for the amortization period.

A six-party meeting among the aforementioned countries has been scheduled for September. Meanwhile, Ukraine proposes moving ahead bilaterally with Iran to select a transit route. Ukraine and Iran can then invite other countries to participate, depending on the choice of route.

Each of the three options poses daunting problems. The route out of Iran through Armenia will almost certainly be opposed by Gazprom. The Russian company will defend its position in Ukraine, and has ample means to pressure Armenia to act as a buffer, rather than as a conduit for competing gas. Moreover, it is Gazprom policy at present to restrict access of Iranian gas in the South Caucasus as well. At Moscow's insistence, the Iran-Armenia gas supply pipeline now under construction will have a small diameter, so as to keep its throughput capacity to a minimum.

The route out of Iran through Turkey seems less subject to Russian or other strong-arm political interference. Moreover, an Iran-Turkey gas pipeline already exists, and is being underutilized because the Turkish gas market is oversubscribed.

However, laying a pipeline across mountainous Anatolia to the Black Sea coast, and then a seabed pipeline to Crimea, is a proposition that investors will receive with great caution. Construction of a large-capacity transit pipeline through Ukraine will then be necessary, as there is no spare capacity in existing pipelines.

Iranian gas is high-priced already at the country's border, as Armenia has learned. If inordinate transportation costs are added, Iranian gas might price itself above Ukraine's paying ability and out of competition on European markets.

Sea Launch consortium gets contract for satellite launch in Kazakhstan

(Ukrainian Journal)—An international consortium led by Boeing and involving major Ukrainian and Russian space companies signed a contract for a satellite launch from a site in Kazakhstan, Sea Launch, the consortium, reported, Aug. 1.

Sea Launch, known for 16 successful satellite launches from a floating platform in the Pacific Ocean, said the latest contract with PanAmSat anticipates the launch from Baikonur, a land cosmodromme, in 2007.

The contract opens way for the first commercial launch by Sea Launch's sister venture, Land Launch, which involves a greater reliance on Russian and Ukrainian space hardware.

In both projects, Ukraine owns a stake that that gives the country a foothold in a growing business of commercial satellite launches. Ukraine also sells its state-of-the-art space vehicles, Zenit-3SL, to both projects.

Land Launch is generally designed to lift smaller satellites into orbit compared with Sea Launch. It also charges less for the launch services.

"The Land Launch system is well positioned to reliably and efficiently serve the emerging market requirement for medium weight commercial satellites," Jim Maser, president and general manager of Sea Launch, said in a statement.

PanAmSat's PAS-11 satellite will be lifted to orbit by Zenit-3SLB in the second quarter of 2007, the consortium said. It will provide television distribution services for Latin America. Separately, the contract also calls for launching two bigger PanAmSat satellites by Sea Launch, in 2006 and 2007.

Sea Launch has previously launched three satellites for PanAmSat, in 2000, 2002 and 2003.

PanAmSat, which owns and operates fleet of 23 satellites, is a leading global provider of video, broadcasting and network distribution and delivery services.

The Land Launch program is based on the collaboration of the Sea Launch and Space International Services (SIS) to meet the launch needs of an emerging market for dedicated commercial launches in the medium spacecraft mass range.

SIS is a Moscow-based venture, founded by Ukraine's space companies PivdenMash/Pivdenne, also known as YuzhMash/Yuzhnoye by Russian transliteration, and RSC Energia, the leading Russian space company. The venture is supported by the Russian Federal Space Agency.

Sea Launch, established in 1995, is based in Long Beach, Calif., provides reliable heavy lift launch services to commercial satellite customers. Its shareholders include Boeing, Kvaerner ASA of Norway, RSC Energia and PivdenMash/Pivdenne.

Government to step up grain purchases to prevent seasonal price slump

(Ukrainian Journal)—The government plans to step up purchases of grain from farmers in order to prevent a major price slump that traditionally occurs during grain harvesting and inflicts financial losses on farmers.

The government plans to buy 5.5 million tons of grain though different channels, up from about 4 million tons that had been earlier expected, according to the latest Cabinet resolution.

The government decided to step up the purchases after preliminary assessment of crops had indicated farmers may collect 42 million tons of grain this season, up from 39 million previously expected.

The greater grain output increases supply and puts downward pressure on grain prices, forcing farmers to sell the commodity barely covering production costs.

The plan, approved by the government July 29, calls for the State Material Reserve Agency buying 1 million tons of grain, while Khlib Ukrayiny, the state grain trader, will buy 2 million tons, the Agriculture Fund will buy 1 million tons and regional authorities will buy 1.5 million tons.

The government also instructed the Transportation Ministry to reduce tariffs for grain shipments by railroad cars through the end of the year about 16%, which should encourage greater export shipments thus easing downward pressure on domestic grain prices.

Farmers started to harvest grain in early July and are expected to mostly complete the harvesting through early September, suggesting the government's purchasing intervention may occur within the next four weeks.

Business briefs

Media piracy law signed

(RFE/RL)—President Viktor Yushchenko has signed into law amendments to the Criminal Code that prohibit CD piracy, Interfax reported on July 28. The law was passed on July 6 by parliament and sets responsibility for operations involving the production, export, and import of CDs and, equipment for their production. According to the amendments, the import of stamper disks and specialized equipment for CD production shall be licensed as a form of economic activity.

Ukraine seeks Iraq pipeline

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine will seek to build a pipeline from oil fields in northern Iraq across Turkey to boost oil supplies via Ukraine to the European Union, according to a plan approved by the government. The plan, which details cooperation steps between Ukraine and Iraq, was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers and anticipates talks with the nations involved within the next three months.

Poroshenko welcomes Iran gas statement

(RFE/RL)—National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko welcomed a statement by Iranian Deputy Oil Minister Hadi Nejad-Husseinian saying that Ukraine has agreed to transit 20 billion cubic meters of gas to Europe. "After some problems with Turkey on exports of Iranian gas to Europe, the agreement will open the doors of Europe to Iranian exports, which is very important for us," Interfax-Ukraine quoted him as saying on July 28. Ukraine has proposed two routes for a gas pipeline from Iran to Ukraine and on to Europe.

Japan interested in monorail

(Ukrainian Journal)—Japan is interested in constructing a magnetic cushion monorail which will connect Kyiv with Boryspil international airport, First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Kinakh says. "This is a new proposal. At present, we are finishing working out the concept of the regional plan for developing and rebuilding Boryspil. The government will confirm the concept, the general layout of reconstruction and development of Boryspil, as well as tenders for participation in upgrading the airport," Kinakh told the Interfax-Ukraine news agency on July 23.

Compressor reconstruction starts

(Ukrainian Journal)—The state-owned Naftogaz Ukrayiny has started a UAH80 million reconstruction of Komarno compressor station in Lviv region, which is involved in export deliveries of gas to Poland, Interfax-Ukraine reported, July 28. The work was ordered by the Lvivtranshaz department of mainline gas pipelines of the Ukrtranshaz national company (which is an affiliate company of Naftogaz Ukrayiny).

Minister calls for livestock increase

(RFE/RL)—Agricultural Policy Minister Oleksandr Baranivskyy on July 21 called on regional governors to promote increasing the number of livestock in the country, with a view to addressing the current meat shortages, the Ukrayinska pravda website reported. "I beg you: Every single pig we have should not be killed [for meat] — it should be mated," Baranivskyy said at a Cabinet of Ministers meeting. "Have you understood your task?" Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko asked the governors.

UKRAINIAN TV NETWORK
KYIV, LVIV
Philadelphia, Chicago, Sacramento
Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Alberta, Manitoba
linking our communities !
KONTAKT
Watch us on the WEB !
www.infoukes.com
tel: 1800 KONTAKT - fax: 416 762 4880
e-mail: klufas@kontakt.ca
2118A Bloor St. W. Toronto, Ont. M6S 1M8
БУДЬМО в КОНТАКТІ!

PHOTOS — ROMAN PETRIW

Above: Members of Kharkiv's championship team pose with some of their Edmonton fans, following the final, July 30. Below story: Viktor Nastashevsky in action.

Kharkiv rolls over opposition to take 45+ Championship

(UkrNews)—A powerhouse team from Kharkiv, which included five members of the former Soviet national team, steamrolled their opposition enroute to a convincing championship win in the men's over 45 soccer category at the World Masters Games in Edmonton, July 30.

Close to 100 members of the local community came out to cheer Kharkiv on as they trounced the KC Trojans 4-0 in the final.

I believe the role of the (local) Ukrainians who came out to support us was very significant in our victory," said head coach A. Shapovenko.

Former Dynamo Kyiv star Viktor Nastashevsky paced Kharkiv to the win with a natural hat trick in the first half.

"I just do my job," he said after leaving the game late in the second half.

Volodymyr Linke scored the fourth goal early in the second half, and Kharkiv was content to pass the ball around with their superb technique and keep the opposition bottled up in their own zone for the rest of the game.

"We came here not only as a football team, we came here as Ukrainians, to show the Ukrainian Diaspora that Ukraine can also be victorious," said Shapovenko "We simply wanted to do this. The atmosphere in the team was battle ready and, maybe we are truly better," he noted.

"Ukrainians sing well and play football well," he added.

Kharkiv clobbered Okanagan Spring 6-1 in the final. They swept all four games in the group stage outscoring their opposition 18-1.

Alexander Nechyporenko, deputy mayor of Kharkiv and a player said they had been invited to participate in the Masters by the Football Association of Ukraine and the team was put together very spontaneously.

"We were united by one by one thing a desire to show the world that there is a Ukrainian state a desire to prove that we are Ukrainians," he said during a meeting with the Ukrainian community at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Centre, July 27.

Ukraine takes 3 swimming bronze

(UkrNews)—Ukraine won three bronze medals at the World Swimming Championships held in Montreal, July 17 – 31.

Andriy Serdinov took third place in the men's 100-metre butterfly with a time of 52:08.

He was behind Ian Crocker of the United States with 50.40 and Michael Phelps, also of the United States, with 51:65.

Oleh Brus took the bronze in the 50m butterfly with 23:38.

First was Roland Schoeman of South Africa with 22:96. Crocker was second with 23:12.

In the women's 3m synchronised swimming final, Li Ting and Guo Jingling of Chine scored 349.80, receiving first place in four of the five dives. With a sprinkling of 10s, they ran away from second place finishers Ditte Kotzian and Conny Schmalfuss of Germany with 319.50, and Kristina Ishchenko and Olena Fedorova of Ukraine with 308.82.

Masters athletes welcomed by Edmonton's Ukrainian community

Sports

(UkrNews)—Ukrainian athletes participating at the World Masters Games in Edmonton, July 22 to 31 said they were overwhelmed by the welcome given them by the city's Ukrainian community.

"When I come back I will tell everybody what kind of people live here," said Deputy Mayor of Kharkiv, Alexander Nechyporenko at a meeting with the Ukrainian community at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Centre, July 27

"They all live with Canada in their head, but Ukraine in their soul," said Nechyporenko, who was a member of the soccer team which went on to win the men's over 45 category championship.

"These days are unforgettable for us," echoed Yaroslav Novitskiy, an ethnic Ukrainian living in Moscow. "These days will be in our memories forever."

Eighty-three athletes from Ukraine were among the over 23,000 participating in the World Masters Games.

The World Masters Games are the largest multi-sport games in the world. Anyone who meets the minimum age requirement (30 for most sports, with a minimum for 25 in a few) can register. There are no other qualification criteria.

Competition categories are divided according to age categories, usually in five-year units. These can range anywhere from 25-29 to 95-99.

Among the athletes who won medals was Valeriy Lobanov, 63 from Donetsk who set five Masters records in the 93 kg (60-64) weightlifting class.

He set records of two records in the clean and jerk, one in the snatch and two more in totals.

Mariupol's Viktor Makarov won a bronze in the (65-69) 63 kg class.

Kharkiv's Volodymyr Pilipchenko, competing in the 41-45 age category won three gold medals in the 50-meter, 100m and 200m breaststroke and silvers in the 200m breaststroke and 4X50 relay.

Vadym Kutsenko, also from Kharkiv, who was competing in the 60-64 category took a gold in the individual medley, three silvers in free style and a bronze in the 200m butterfly.

Yevhen Tkachenko won a gold in the high jump.

Valentyna Krepkina of Kyiv, competing in the 35-39 category, won medals in the triple jump and long jump.

"I like to meet with the people, stay in shape, and represent Ukraine," she said.

Competing for Russia, Novitskiy won two golds and three silvers.

In addition to thanking Edmonton's Ukrainian community during the meeting at the youth complex, several speakers commented on recent events in Ukraine, particularly the Orange Revolution.

"For 10 years they raped our mother Ukraine and the criminal authorities did it to ensure that the consciousness of Ukrainians remained at the lowest level," said Serhiy Strazhenky, an adviser to the governor of Kharkiv Oblast.

But now the hopes that Ukraine can be free and prosperous can come to fruition, he added.

Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council Presidents Dave Broda greeted the athletes on behalf of the community and said he hopes they will remember what they saw here when they return to Ukraine.

Speaking on behalf of the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex, Vice President Taras Podilsky said the Ukrainian Canadian community is proud of the fact that our athletes are competing under the long-forbidden Trident and blue-and-yellow flag.

"The world has never paid as much attention to Ukraine, as it did during the Orange Revolution. At that time, everybody who believes in democracy became a lover of the Ukrainian people," he said.

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Ukrainian participants at the World Masters Games pose in front of the Ukrainian Youth Unbity Complex.